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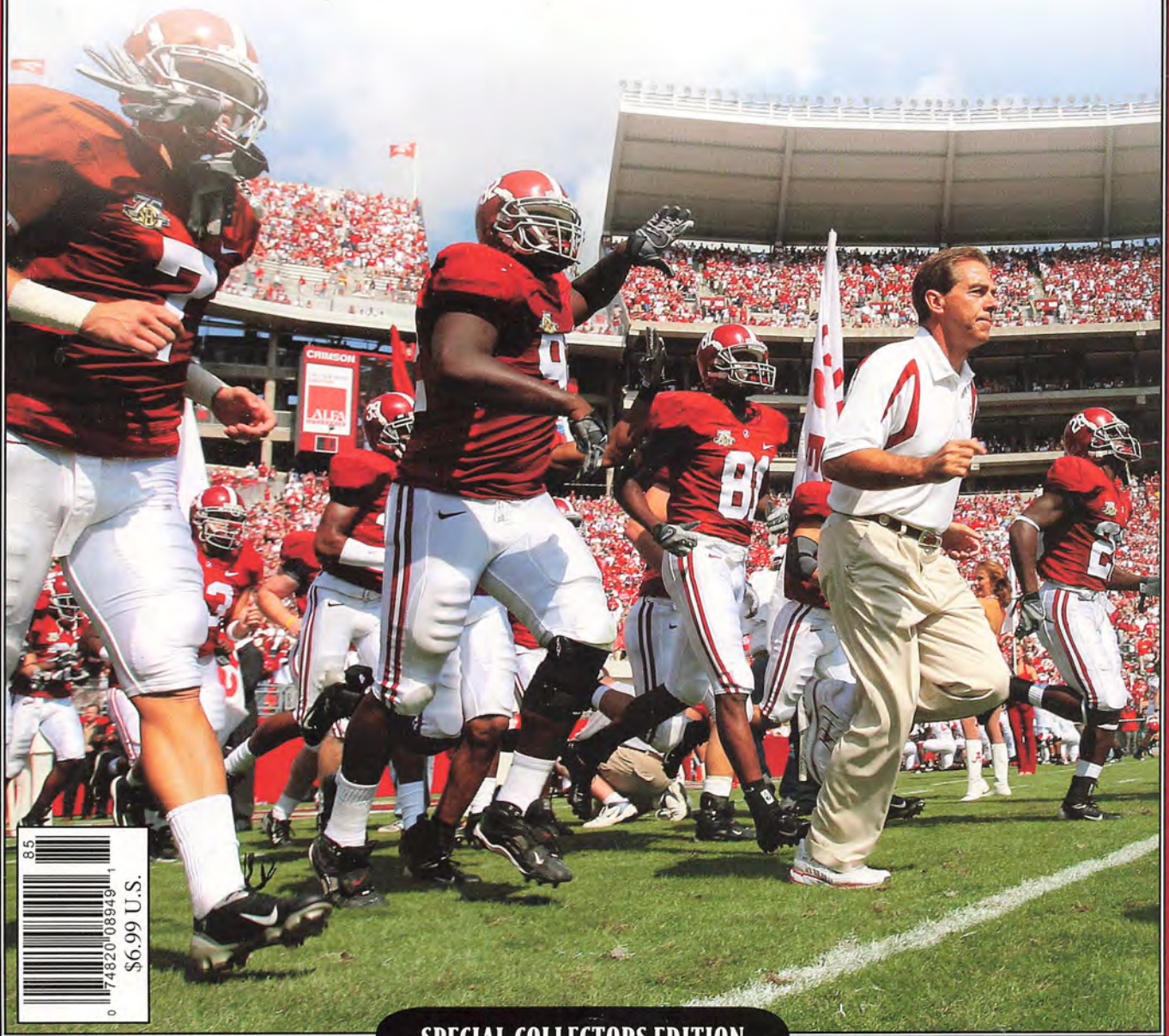
The Tide Turns

First 12-0 Regular Season in Tide History

Seniors Lay the Foundation



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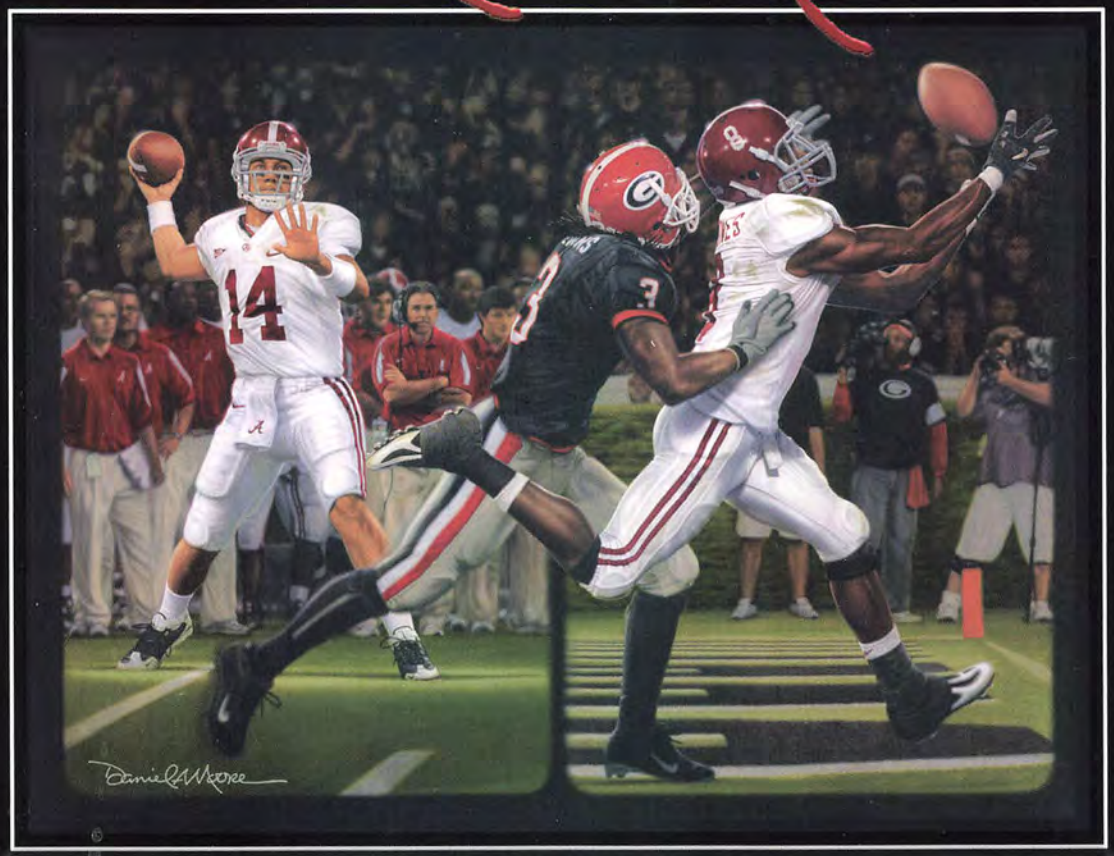

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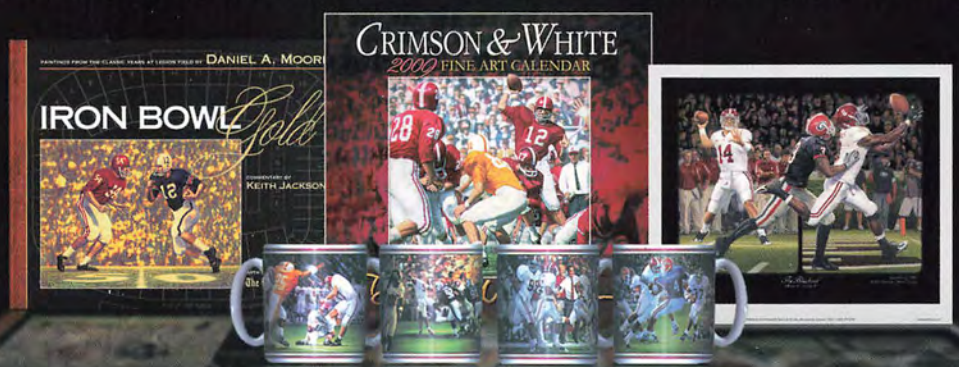

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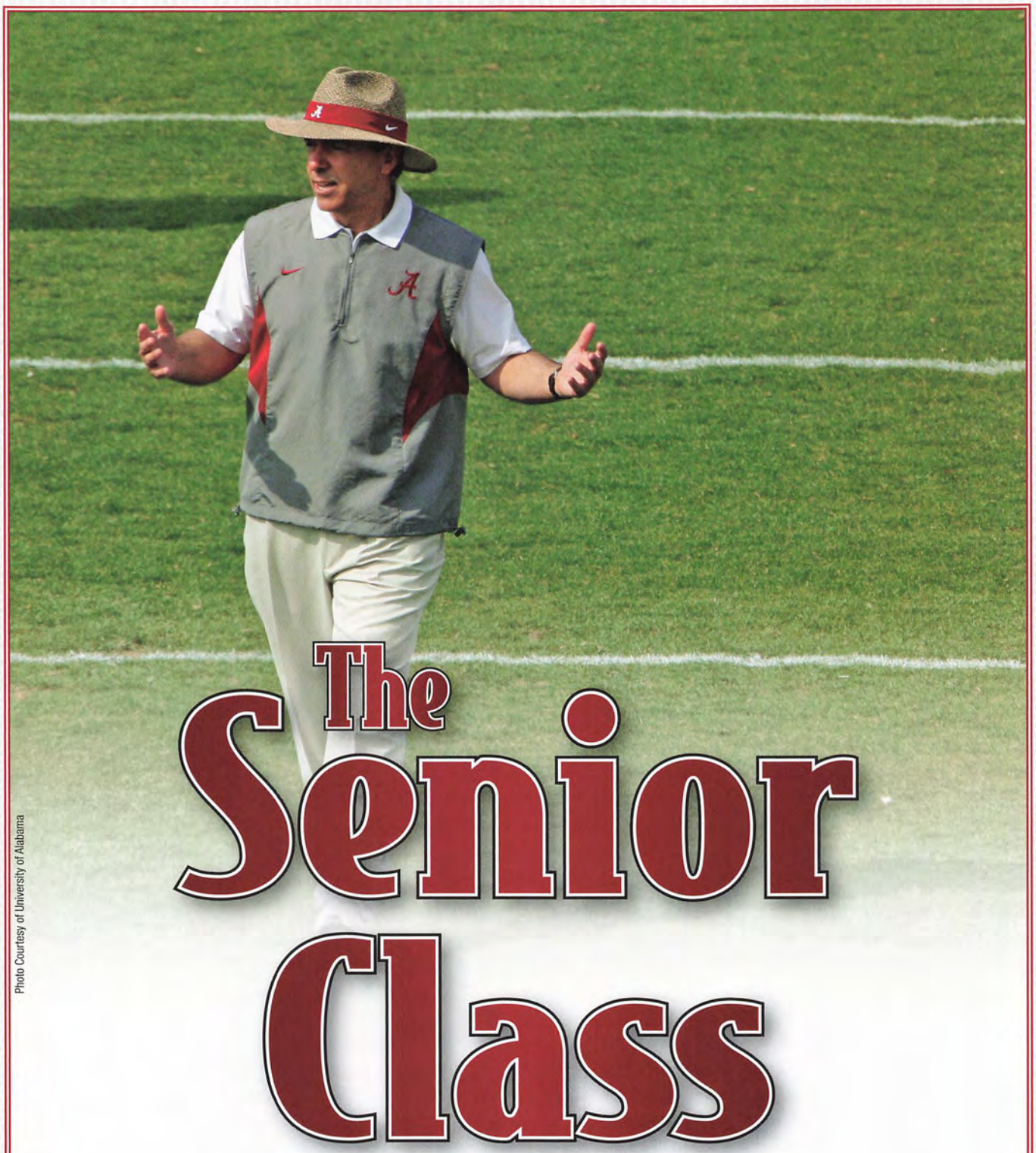


The Senior Class

Photo Courtesy of University of Alabama

Laying the foundation for championships

Antoine Caldwell

Marlon Davis

Bobby Greenwood

Rashad Johnson

Travis McCall

Will Oakley

Nikita Stover

Nick Walker

John Parker Wilson

Although they were few in numbers, they provided leadership and what they have done will not soon be forgotten.

The scholarship seniors on the 2008 Crimson Tide football team have overcome a lot of obstacles to leave their lasting impression on Alabama football. They were there through the often tumultuous final year of the Mike Shula coaching reign and they went through the search and transition to the Nick Saban era.

They suffered through repeated losses to their in-state rival and yet they kept coming back and working and trying to help turn the program around.

They did it this year. The seniors led Alabama to a perfect 12-0 regular season and the SEC Western Division championship. They came close to winning the SEC Championship, but lost out late to an outstanding Florida Gators team that will play for the national title.

There is no denying that this senior class not only stabilized the football program, it got it going back in the direction of championships, laying the foundation for better days ahead.

Three of the seniors — quarterback John Parker Wilson, safety Rashad Johnson and center Antoine Caldwell — were honored by being named permanent captains for the 2008 squad. Caldwell and Johnson were elected captains for the second year in a row and join S.B. Slone (1894,1896), W.E. Drennen (1900-01), W.S. Wyatt (1903-04), Al Clemens (1921, 1923), Jarret Johnson (2001-02) and Tyler Watts (2001-02) as the only two-time captains in school history.

But the contributions of the rest of the senior class have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Their play on the field speaks for itself, but they have been leaders off the field as well. The rest of the senior class is made up of Bobby Greenwood, Marlon Davis, Nick Walker, Will Oakley, Nikita Stover and Travis McCall. Eight of the nine scholarship seniors have already graduated and Antoine Caldwell has graduated with two degrees. The ninth, Marlon Davis, is on track to graduate in May.

Coach Nick Saban has strong feelings about this senior class.

"The seniors on this team should have a legacy on this team and be remembered (as the leaders of) the team that brought a lot of pride back to the University of Alabama, to the football program and to the people of the state of Alabama who support it," Saban said following the SEC Championship Game.

"I think that should be their legacy."

CRIMSON TIDE

Jumps ahead of schedule
Season Review

By Ben Cook

Photo Courtesy of University of Alabama

It wasn't supposed to be this good.

The 2008 Alabama football season was supposed to be better than the 7-6 mark of the previous year, but most realistic projections had Alabama still a year away from being a serious contender for the SEC West crown. That was supposed to come down to a battle between the defending national champion LSU Tigers and Auburn, a team boasting an exciting new spread offense. Alabama was picked to finish third in the SEC West, ahead of only Ole Miss, Arkansas and Mississippi State.

When the preseason magazines came out, only *Lindy's* had Alabama in its preseason Top 25. The magazine had the Crimson Tide listed at No. 20. *Lindy's* projection said: "Like everyone else in the SEC, the schedule leaves little margin for error, plus there's the opener against Clemson. But here's the bottom line: get the Tide while you can, because Saban is building."

But the building process was supposed to be a work in progress, not exactly a near finished project. The schedule was tough. The Crimson Tide would have to face Arkansas, Georgia, Tennessee and LSU on the road and Clemson at a neutral site. Alabama did not have a large senior class from which to draw experience. The Tide was welcoming in the nation's top-rated recruiting class, but you don't count on freshman having to help you win in the Southeastern Conference. Usually, if you have to rely on freshman you are struggling to win football games.

Alabama coach Nick Saban faced a lot of questions as the Tide prepared to open the season against Clemson in the Chick-fil-A College Kickoff at the Georgia Dome. It is a general rule of thumb that a team makes the greatest progress from year one of a new coach to year two than at any other time. But until the team actually shows it on the field, you just don't know.

When Saban met with reporters on the Monday before the opening game, he expressed those concerns.

"Saturday's game is certainly a challenging game for us," Saban said. "But I think the big thing is that we're going to find out a lot about who we are. You know, the identity of our team. Who can lead through adversity? Who can play through adversity? Who can finish? Who can execute regardless of the circumstances in the game? Finish plays? Finish the game? How are you seen as a competitor? What is the identity of the team? How can you sustain intensity, intelligence, a sense of urgency every play? How are you seen as a competitor? How are we seen as competitors? So, from that standpoint, it's really all about our team."

The questions would not necessarily all be answered in the Clemson game, but with the Tigers the preseason pick to win the Atlantic Coast Conference, this game looked to be a good measuring stick of just how far Alabama had progressed from the end of the 2007 season.

Alabama fans were uneasy over opening the season against such a strong opponent even if it was to be played at a neutral site. While a lot of teams like to open the season with a cupcake and an easy win, Saban's Tide was jumping right into the fire to open the 2008 season. Saban knew that winning or losing was not the ultimate judge as to where his football team was.

"I think that the big thing is who you are, what I said before: finding out about yourself in terms of how you compete, how you play, who the leaders are. So it's really more about our team. Winning or losing really doesn't determine that," Saban said. "This is one game in the season. The way I figure it, you can win and go 1-11. You can lose and go 11-1. And I know that doesn't make good media coverage, but that's the fact of the matter. Obviously we want to win. I think our players want to win. That's what we work hard for. That's what we're preparing for.

"It's really more about finding out who we are and where we've got to go to get to where we want to be," Saban said.

Saban found out in a hurry as Alabama destroyed ninth-ranked Clemson, 34-10. The Tide never trailed in the game and the Alabama defense held the Tigers to exactly zero yards rushing.

But even more encouraging for Alabama was that nine true freshmen, including outstanding wide receiver Julio Jones, who caught a 4-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter, as well as two redshirt freshmen and one junior college transfer, man mountain Terrence Cody at nose tackle, played against Clemson.

Photo Courtesy of University of Alabama

"I'm obviously very proud of our team," Saban said afterward. "Finishing the game has been our motto for the season. The game tonight epitomized that."

It was to be the theme for the season — finish the game. Which meant not just hang around until the clock hit 0:00, but finish the game as strong or stronger at the end than at the beginning. It was something the 2007 version of the Crimson Tide did not do.

Alabama came back down to earth and took a win over Tulane in which the Tide didn't show much, but they came back to blast Western Kentucky to go 3-0 and set up the first big road trip of the season to Arkansas.

"Hopefully these (first) three games have taught us lessons in terms of the things that we were not able to accomplish on a consistent basis," Saban said prior to the Arkansas game. "Our team has made some improvement and we need to continue to improve. We are not disappointed in where we are, but we are not where we can be. We are looking forward to trying to continue to improve."

Alabama center Antoine Caldwell recognized the importance of the Arkansas game and opening SEC play.

"Normally, whoever wins this game goes on to have a pretty good year," Caldwell said. "It's one of those swing games that we've had. It's going to be another physical game. We look forward to preparing as hard as we can for it and getting after it on Saturday."

Alabama got after the Hogs pretty good. The Tide intercepted four passes and rushed for 331 yards behind an offensive line that was getting better and better every game. Alabama handed Arkansas a 49-14 defeat before a hostile crowd in Fayetteville and Caldwell was right, it was a swing game for Alabama. It proved that the team can win big SEC games on the road, and that was a necessary lesson to learn with the No. 3-ranked Georgia Bulldogs waiting one week later between the hedges in Athens.

The Alabama team that went to Georgia was a team brimming with confidence. It was a team that was leaning heavily on a defense that could be crushing. Terrence Cody was becoming a cult hero with his play at the nose tackle position and the secondary was growing under the senior leadership of Rashad Johnson and the steady play of guys like Justin Woodall, Javier Arenas, Kareem Jackson and others.

Photo by Andy Lyons/Getty Images

Rashad Johnson

Photo by Wesley Hitt/Getty Images

Brian Selman

Photo by R.D. Moore

Julio Jones

Offensively, quarterback John Parker Wilson was taking care of the football. The senior from Hoover had problems with crucial interceptions and fumbles a year earlier, but he was protecting the football well in 2008 and relying on Glen Coffee and Mark Ingram in the ground game, while Julio Jones was fast becoming a go-to receiver. But perhaps the biggest key was Alabama's offensive line led by Andre Smith, Antoine Caldwell and Mike Johnson. The line was protecting its quarterback like he was fine crystal and opening holes for the running backs by punishing defensive lines.

Alabama was ready to turn the corner on the season in Athens.

Before a national television audience, Alabama scored on all five first half possessions and raced to a 31-0 halftime lead over the stunned Bulldogs, and although Georgia added a couple of late scores to make the margin more presentable, Alabama's 41-30 win over Georgia was the validation that the Crimson Tide was a force to be accounted for nationally once again.

The Crimson Tide took a couple of closer than expected home victories over Kentucky and Ole Miss, but then another SEC road trip produced another decisive win, this one 29-9 over Tennessee in Knoxville. It was followed by a 35-0 shutout of Arkansas State to raise the record to 9-0 and move Alabama into the No. 1 spot in the nation.

Alabama's stretch run was going to be about two things: hanging on to the No. 1 ranking and breaking streaks. The Tide would try to break a five-game losing streak to LSU, a two-game losing streak to Mississippi State and a six-game losing streak to the Auburn Tigers.

The LSU game was a big one. Although LSU came in with two losses already on its ledger, this was perhaps the biggest

game on the LSU schedule because it was the return of Nick Saban, the coach who led LSU to the 2003 national championship and then broke hearts all across the bayou when he left to become the head coach of the Miami Dolphins. He then enflamed those same hearts when he left the Dolphins to take over the Crimson Tide, which is LSU's new biggest rival.

Baton Rouge was ready for Saban, more so than for Alabama. An apartment complex burned the Alabama coach in effigy the night before the game. Signs were everywhere condemning Saban and lifting up current LSU coach Les Miles. The LSU fans wanted this one bad, but Saban and the Tide broke their hearts once again.

Rashad Johnson picked off three LSU passes, including one in overtime, as Alabama took a 27-21 overtime victory and clinched the SEC West championship and a trip to the SEC Championship Game. One streak broken.

Next up was a struggling Mississippi State Bulldog team led by former Tide star Sylvester Croom. Croom had back-to-back wins over his alma mater, but this was a different team and Alabama crushed State, 32-7. Two streaks broken.

Then it was Iron Bowl week.

"It's not about where you're ranked or what your record is or any BCS or any of that stuff. It's really about this game and this week," Saban said. "I think the thing the players need to focus on is what they need to do to play well and not think about all the things surrounding the game."

But Saban admitted this one was something special. "It's not just another game," he said. "I think it's a great rivalry."

It was no contest. Alabama led 10-0 at the half and then proceeded to pound at the Auburn defense with its power running game in the second half on the way to a 36-0 victory. Three streaks broken.

"I'd like to say that when I came here, change was probably inevitable," Saban said after the game.

"But the growth that everybody has had was optional. Everybody had to buy into it, and I just want to say that the seniors that we have on this team were the key to changing the culture starting after the bowl game last year through the offseason, and now week to week in the season providing leadership and setting a tremendous example.

"I am really pleased for our seniors, and I want everyone to know that they should always be recognized as the group that had a tremendous amount to do with changing the culture here," Saban said.

A perfect 12-0 regular season far exceeded expectations, but Alabama did it. Although the Tide missed winning the SEC title and playing for the national championship, it was still a season to remember.

Tide's 2008 team eerily similar to 1992 team

The comparisons were inevitable.

In 1992 Alabama shocked the college football world by going undefeated, winning the first SEC Championship Game and then knocking off a heavily favored Miami Hurricane team 34-13 in the Sugar Bowl to win the national championship.

Photo by Tim DeFrisco

Jay Barker

In 2008, Alabama again shocked the college football world by going undefeated in the regular season and being one step away from playing for the national championship, before falling just short. And like the 1992 team, Alabama will again end the season in the Sugar Bowl against an undefeated team.

But the comparisons don't stop there. In fact, they are just beginning.

Both teams had strong defenses. Alabama '92 led the Southeastern Conference in rushing defense, passing defense, total defense and scoring defense.

Alabama '08 led the SEC in rushing defense, was second in the SEC in pass defense, led in total defense and led in scoring defense.

Obviously both defenses were outstanding, although the 1992 defense is considered one of the best in NCAA history. It was also the last SEC defense to average giving up less than 10 points per game.

Both teams had outstanding stars on defense. Alabama '92 had defensive backs Antonio Langham and George Teague and the bookend defensive ends Eric Curry and John Copeland. Alabama '08 has nose tackle Terrence Cody, linebacker Rolando McClain, defensive backs Rashad Johnson and Javier Arenas.

Both offenses were good, but not the best in the conference. In fact, neither the 1992 nor the 2008 team led the SEC in any of the four major offensive categories — rushing, passing, total offense or scoring offense.

Both teams had strong leadership at quarterback — Jay Barker in 1992 and John Parker Wilson in 2008; both had a strong running back — Derrick Lassic in '92 and Glen Coffee in '08.

Both teams were coached by defensive-minded head coaches — Gene Stallings in 1992 and Nick Saban in 2008.

Both teams were deep with talent, but for each the sum of all the parts was greater than any one of the individual parts. There were star players, but both teams were known more for leadership and team play than anything.

But the 1992 team reached the ultimate goal while the 2008 team had to settle for laying the foundation for future titles.

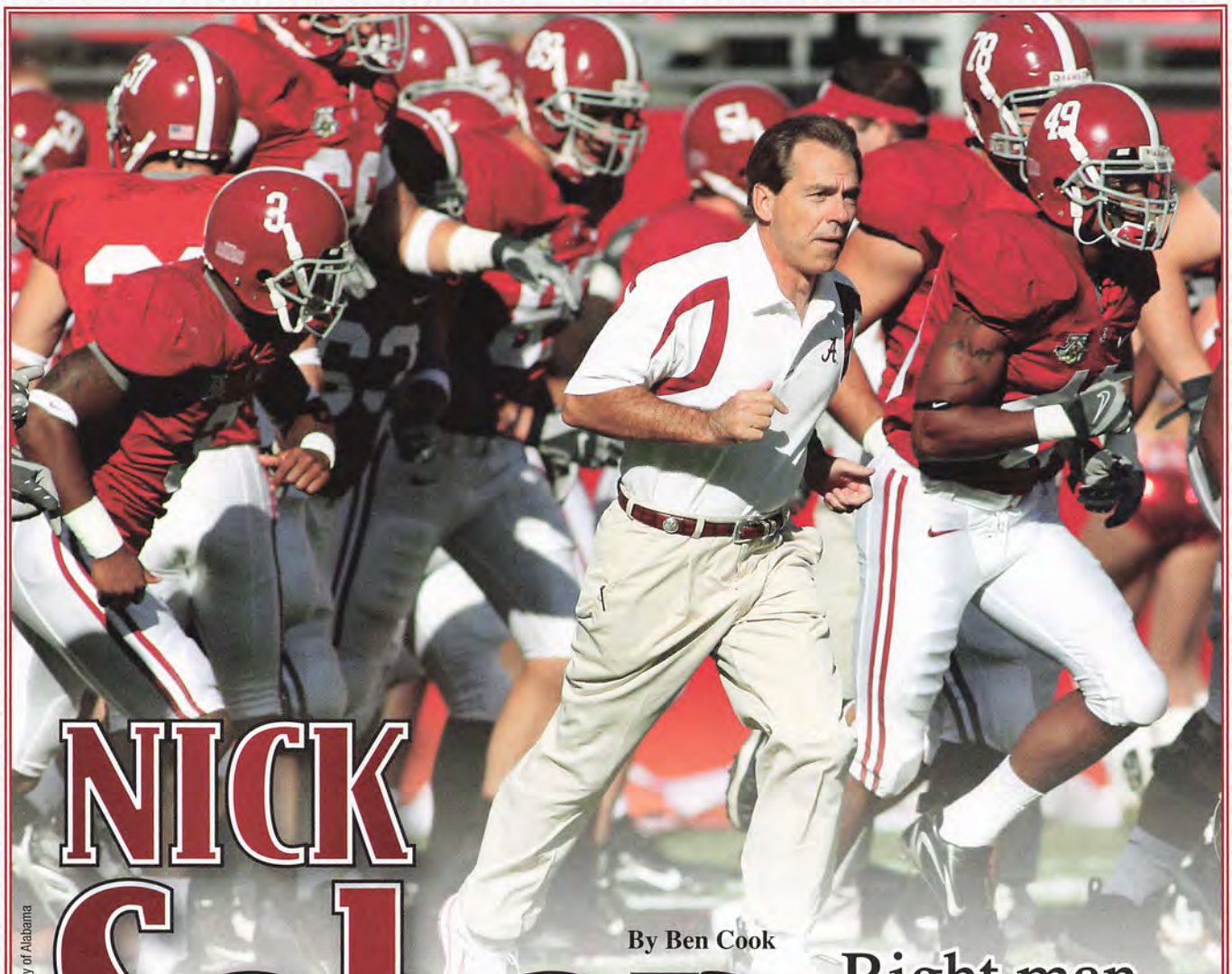


Photo Courtesy of University of Alabama

NICK Saban

By Ben Cook

Right man, Right place, Right time

There are times when the moon is in the seventh house and Jupiter aligns with Mars. Nope, it's not the Age of Aquarius despite what the song says, but it is the perfect culmination of the right man in the right place at the right time.

After years of struggling with mediocrity and laboring under the weight of NCAA sanctions, the University of Alabama found that perfect combination of right man, right place and right time when Mal Moore hired Nick Saban to coach the Crimson Tide.

No, that's not what he was actually hired to do. Others from Ray Perkins to Bill Curry to Gene Stallings to Mike DuBose to Dennis Franchione to Mike Shula were hired to coach the Crimson Tide. Saban was hired for a much higher calling.

He was hired to bring the Crimson Tide back to its place among the most prestigious college football programs in America. It is a place Alabama once occupied before seeing it slip away under NCAA probation, scandals, mediocre coaching and sub-par football teams.

The legacy that had been painstakingly constructed under the watchful eyes of men like Xen Scott, Wallace Wade, Frank Thomas, Red Drew and especially Bear Bryant had become a burden to coaches who couldn't stand up to it.

Stallings almost did, leading Alabama to an undefeated season and a national championship in 1992, but the man most like Bear also let it slip away through his mishandling of the NCAA. Alabama's probation problems started under Stallings' watch and the university paid for it through the next three coaching

eras (four if you count Mike Price).

When Shula was let go after a 6-6 season in 2006, doubters around the country scoffed at the idea that Saban would leave the Miami Dolphins and go to Tuscaloosa. In fact, many in the media wrote that no self-respecting coach would want to go to Tuscaloosa where expectations were always too high and the fan base too eager to chew up and spit out any coach that didn't live up to the legacy of the Bear.

But they underestimated athletic director Mal Moore's determination and they underestimated Saban's desire to return to the venue with which he was most comfortable — college football. So, on January 3, 2007, Saban became the 27th head football coach in Crimson Tide history.

The stars were lining up in more ways than one.

Critics continued to take shots at Alabama even after the hiring. They ridiculed Alabama for giving a head football coach a $32 million, eight-year package. They pointed at Saban's record for not sticking around any job for long — five years at Michigan State, five years at LSU and two seasons with the Dolphins. Then, as Saban's first Alabama team struggled through a 6-6 season that was marred by off the field problems, the critics laughed and said Alabama could have gotten the same result for a lot less money by keeping Shula.

But things were falling in place. Saban got a win in the Independence Bowl to at least give the Crimson Tide a winning record in his first season. But more importantly, he got through it and weeded out some of the problems left over from the Shula days. A senior class graduated (or at least used up its eligibility), but it was one not only lacking in leadership, but one that had been a polarizing agent among the underclassmen.

But new leaders started to emerge from the juniors, sophomores and freshmen, leaders that were completely sold out to Saban and his staff. They recognized that Saban knew what it took to become a champion and they wanted to go along for the ride. Then Saban recruited the top class of freshmen in the nation. It was just about time for the perfect alignment for a perfect regular season.

Prior to kicking off the season against Clemson in the Chick-fil-A College Kickoff game in the Georgia Dome, Saban talked about what opening against a team ranked No. 9 in the country could do for his team.

"I think that the big thing is who you are: finding about yourself in terms of how you compete, how you play, who the leaders are," Saban said. "So it's really more about our team and winning or losing really doesn't determine that. How the guys play on individual plays, how they compete, how they can refocus. Can you go out there and give five seconds and do it multiple times and not be affected when you don't have success? Be able to deal with success when you do that, your consistency and performance and your ability to finish is better.

"This is one game in the season. Obviously we want to win. I think our players want to win. That's what we work hard for. That's what we're preparing for. It's really more about finding out who we are and where we've got to go to get to where we want to be," he said.

Getting to where the Tide wanted to be became a theme for this team. Saban preached it throughout the season. As the wins piled up and the ranking crept higher, finally reaching the No. 1 spot in the nation, Saban continued to preach getting better, staying focused and remembering that the Tide was not where it wanted to be yet. With wins over teams like Clemson, Georgia, Tennessee, LSU and Auburn and the SEC West championship in the books, the Tide wanted more, but came up just short in the SEC title game losing to a powerful Florida team.

The Tide made great strides in 2008. There will be a Top 5 national ranking and a Sugar Bowl berth, but there are still goals to reach — and don't bet against Alabama and Nick Saban reaching them.

After all, he is the right man in the right place at the right time.

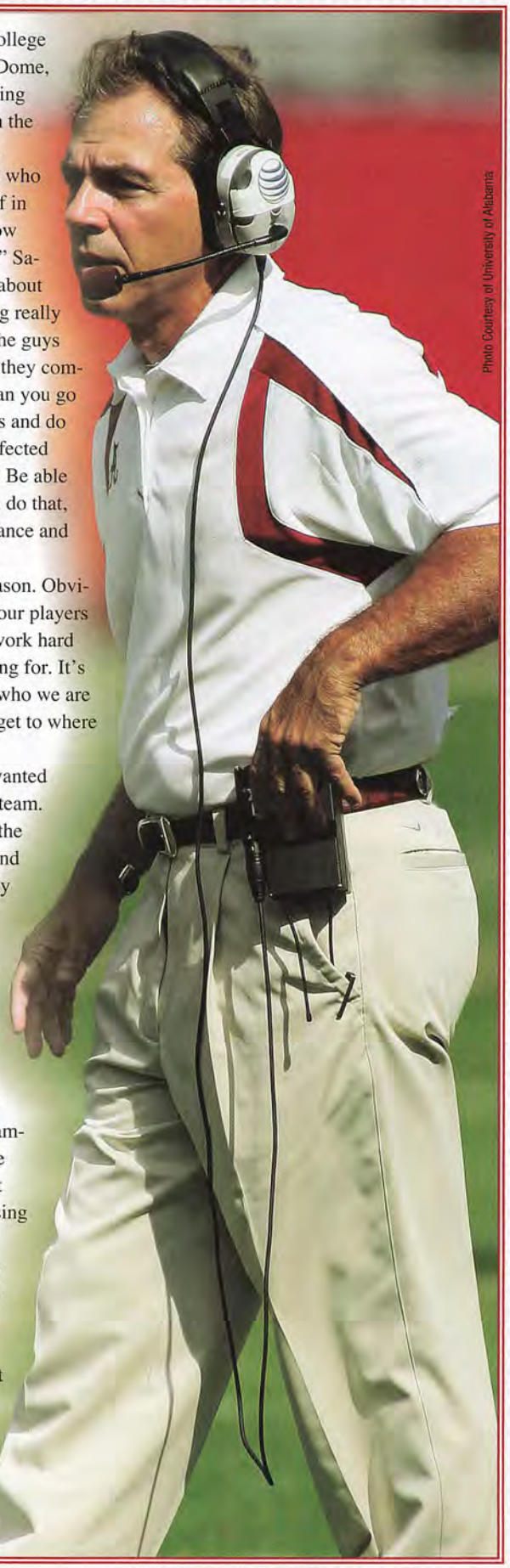
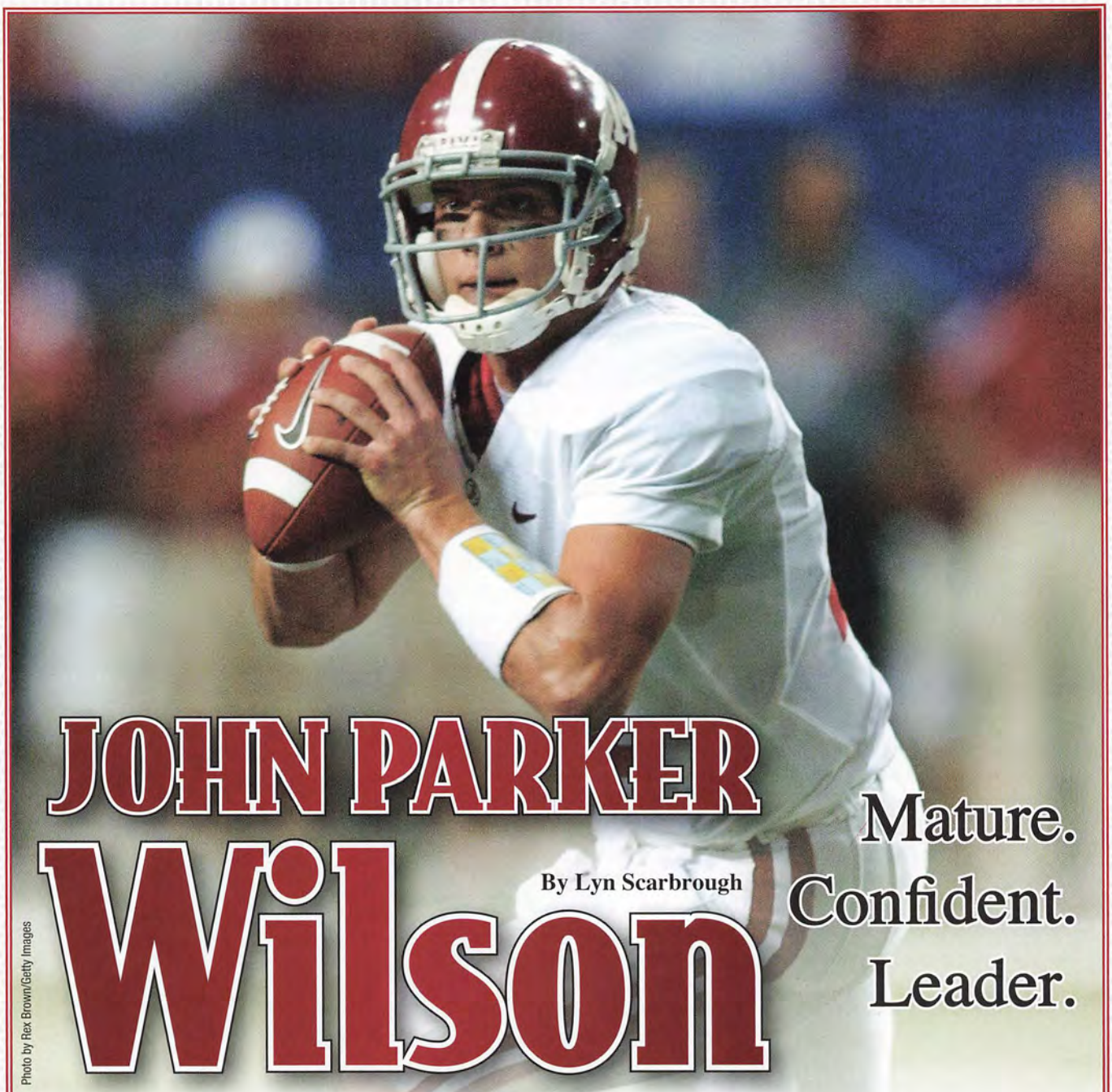


Photo Courtesy of University of Alabama



JOHN PARKER Wilson

Mature. Confident. Leader.

By Lyn Scarbrough

Photo by Rex Brown/Getty Images

Taking the snap from center, the quarterback faked a toss to his tailback, then dropped back. Looking downfield, he saw his receiver break free, a few yards behind the defensive back, and threw the ball as far as he could. Without breaking stride, the receiver pulled in the pass.

Touchdown!

Another touchdown for quarterback John Parker Wilson … and the Hoover Raiders.

That was the Hoover Raiders – *not* the Hoover Bucs.

The high school career and the one that followed at the University of Alabama were still many years away for John Parker Wilson. It was a career that might not have happened at all.

"John Parker hadn't played football before," remembered Ray Wilson (no relation to John Parker), the former coach of the Hoover 90-pound team, a group made of players eight or nine years old. "He had just been playing baseball and he was good. He played shortstop and pitcher and was every bit as good at baseball as football."

Parker Wilson, John Parker's father, was an assistant coach for the Raiders. The two elder Wilsons made the decision to try John Parker as their signal caller. It allowed them to move their starting quarterback to tailback, a move that ignited the Raider offense.

"We became one of the few teams at that age bracket that could actually throw and run the ball," Ray Wilson said. "We won a lot of games that season passing the football. John Parker

had a great arm for his age."

That team won the Jeffco Championship with the title game played at McAdory High School stadium. The average crowd at Raiders home games was made up of 50-100 parents and fans.

"John Parker wanted to be a quarterback even back then," Ray Wilson said. "The championship was an overall team effort, but John Parker was always excited. He was serious about the game. He became a leader."

Some things would change for John Parker Wilson. The crowds would be much larger, first at state champion Hoover High School, then 50 miles or so down the interstate at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

But those same traits that his coaches spotted as a nine-year old were still there as he led the Crimson Tide team to the SEC Western Division title.

Excited. Serious. Leader.

Words that still describe John Parker Wilson.

But, the road to success was not an easy one for John Parker. He earned all-state honors at Hoover where he started under center for three seasons, leading the team to consecutive state titles. His career numbers totaled 8,170 yards passing and 78 touchdowns.

As a college freshman in 2005, he played sparingly, throwing only 11 passes, completing seven for 98 yards.

He earned the starting spot during spring training as a sophomore and everything pointed to a fast rise to stardom. That didn't happen. He did start all 13 games that season, and started the same number as a junior. But, success didn't come to the quarterback or the team.

After two seasons at the helm, Alabama had won only 13 of 26 games and John Parker had thrown 22 interceptions. While fans still supported him, there were seeds of doubt.

Could the senior season be better? Was John Parker Wilson really the man to get the job done at quarterback?

John Parker provided the answer in emphatic terms … "yes!"

The undefeated 2008 regular season proved to be a remarkable turnaround for the third-year starter. He threw for over 1,900 yards and nine touchdowns and ran for five more scores. More importantly, he didn't do things to jeopardize games. The interception total dropped to only five out of 268 passes thrown.

John Parker Wilson, the senior, was perhaps the key element in the Crimson Tide's improvement.

Chris Thurmond has been in a unique position to observe John Parker's transformation. In 2007, he was defensive backs coach for the Houston Cougar team that played in Bryant-Denny Stadium. In 2008, he was defensive backs coach for the Kentucky Wildcats, another team that came to Tuscaloosa and left with a narrow defeat.

"The whole difference is confidence," Thurmond said. "He played with so much more poise and awareness as a senior.

"You could tell from that first game that he was good. I remember in the first half we called a zone blitz, which is a high risk call. He picked it up and threw a touchdown against the blitz. That caused us to play more conservatively the rest of that game. Still, you could tell that he wasn't as comfortable with the offense.

"He's learned that he doesn't have to win games by himself. He realized that the team doesn't have to be on his shoulders in order for them to win. He's become a real team player. And, it's obvious that he has learned to have faith in the players around him."

Thurmond explained the stress faced by a quarterback.

"Inherently, there is a tremendous amount of pressure on any quarterback, especially at a major college program like Alabama," he said. "This year it's like Wilson has been freed-up of that pressure. That has enabled him to play better. Confidence can be so elusive, but especially at that position. It's as important as natural ability."

People that have followed John Parker's career aren't surprised about how things have developed. That goes all the way back to his nine-year old playing days.

"I'm not at all shocked," Ray Wilson said. "You could tell that he could be bound for a great career. He had the mindset of a winner. I don't remember a kid any tougher or with a greater passion for the game."

John Parker's performance has accomplished something else that's often difficult. It brought together some Auburn and Alabama feelings, at least for Ray Wilson, a lifelong Auburn fan and 28-year season ticket holder on the Plains.

"I've been one of John Parker's biggest fans," he said. "As an Auburn fan, I've been glad about Auburn's success in recent years, but that hasn't stopped me from pulling for John Parker. I've always known he had the potential. Few kids could take a hit and get back up like he could. He was a delight to coach.

"I've seen several of his games at Alabama. Every time that I see him, I tell him how proud I am of what he has achieved."

That is something on which everybody can agree.

Mature. Confident. Leader.

All words that describe John Parker Wilson.

Photo by R.D. Moore

Smith & Cody

Crimson Tide's Not-So-Gentle Giants

By Ben Cook

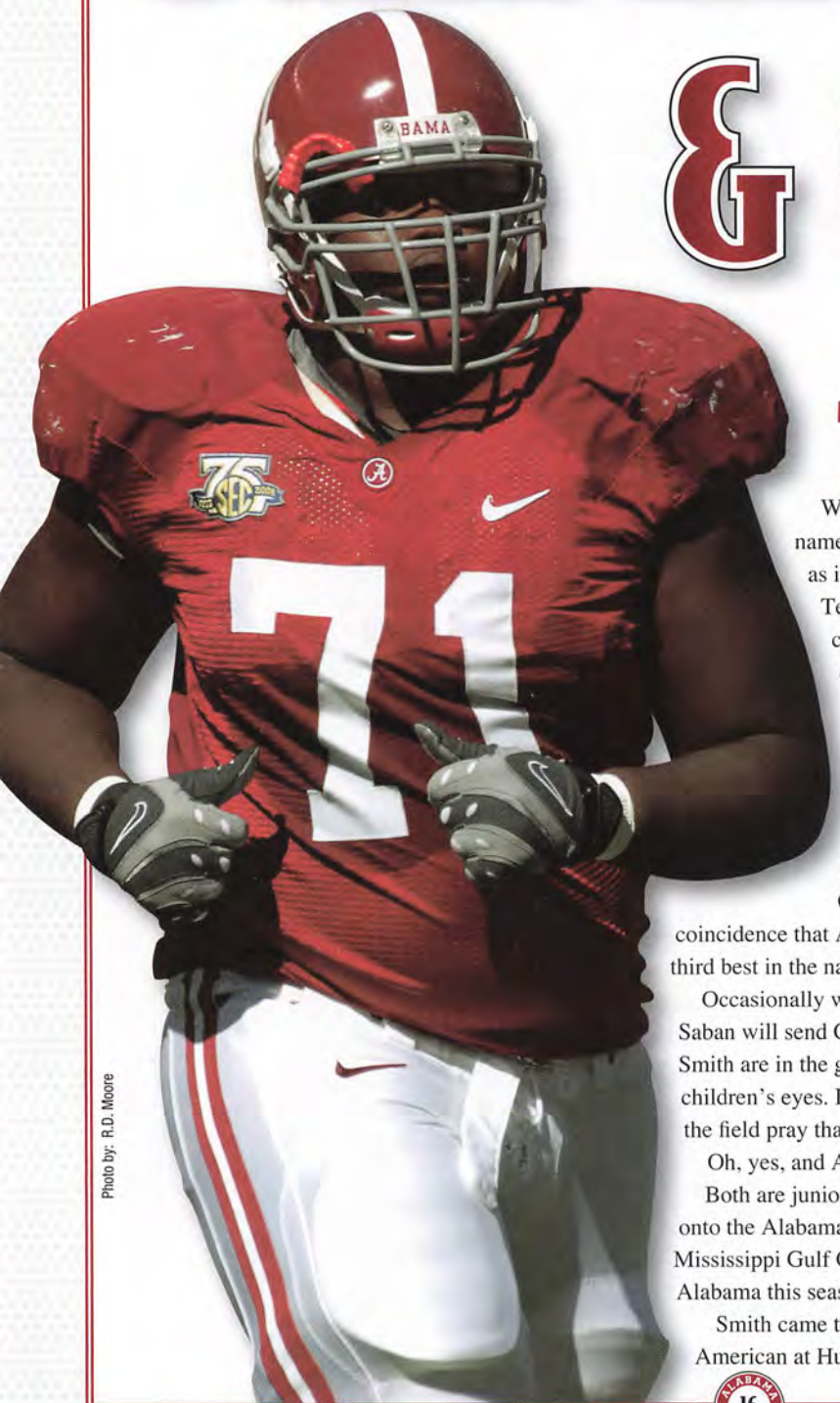


Photo by: R.D. Moore

Their shadows loom large over the 2008 Alabama football team.

Shoot, their shadows loom large anywhere. When opposing teams get ready to play Alabama, the names Andre Smith and Terrence Cody come up frequently, as in "How are we going to handle Andre Smith and Terrence Cody?" Then there is usually a pause as assistant coaches scratch their heads and hope the head coach doesn't expect them to have an answer.

So far nobody has found the answer. Well, there has been some time off due to injuries, but when both are healthy they are just unstoppable.

Smith, 6-4, 330, plays left tackle on the offensive line. It is no coincidence that Alabama has the second best rushing offense in the Southeastern Conference. Cody, 6-5, 365, plays nose guard on defense. It is no coincidence that Alabama has the top rushing defense in the SEC and third best in the nation.

Occasionally when Alabama has the football on the goal line, Nick Saban will send Cody into the game as a blocking back. When Cody and Smith are in the game at the same time, the field tilts. Mothers cover little children's eyes. Defensive coordinators cringe and defensive players on the field pray that Smith and Cody don't both come their way.

Oh, yes, and Alabama usually scores on the next play.

Both are juniors. Smith has been a starter since the day he stepped onto the Alabama campus in 2006. Cody came to Tuscaloosa by way of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and started his first game at Alabama this season against Clemson in the opening game.

Smith came to Tuscaloosa riding a wave of media hype. An All-American at Huffman High in Birmingham and considered the top of-

fensive line recruit in the nation his senior year, Smith won over Alabama fans when he announced his signing by donning a houndstooth hat. He was a crowd favorite from that moment on. Smith came to Alabama because of its tradition, but that wasn't enough for him.

"I love that Alabama has won 12 national championships," Smith said after his freshman year. "But it is time for us to get our own. I believe we are making great strides toward doing that."

Alabama came close this season, winning the SEC West and missing a chance to play for No. 13 by one quarter.

When Nick Saban came to Alabama, he brought national championship experience with him having won the 2003 title while coaching at LSU. When Saban was named, Smith said he knew there would be a learning curve.

"We will work hard and find out what makes him tick; what makes him happy," Smith said.

He found out what makes Saban unhappy in a hurry.

"Not finishing; not playing through the whistle," Smith said. "Self imposed penalties like holding, jumping offsides."

Alabama's offensive line got better through the season and Smith has been the leader of the pack. When Alabama needs yardage, quarterback John Parker Wilson has the easiest of plays to call by simply handing the ball to any of Alabama's running backs and telling them to follow No. 71. There will be running room there.

The offensive line has been consistently good all season. When the Tide swamped Arkansas with 328 rushing yards, Saban said, "The left side — Mike Johnson and Smitty (Andre Smith) — they waxed them. I mean, they waxed them."

Alabama has been waxing them all season long. It was obvious as the year went on, the offensive line continued to improve. In the final two games of the season against Mississippi State and Auburn, the Crimson Tide offense just pounded away at the beleaguered Bulldogs and Tigers defenses in the second half, wearing them down, piling up yardage and eating up clock.

Smith was a finalist for the Outland Trophy this season, given to the nation's best lineman, but the soft spoken tackle even turned that into something for the team and not himself when asked what it would mean to him to bring home the trophy.

"It would mean that hard work and determination that we did as a team helped certain individuals be nominated for certain awards," he said. "That's why I give all the success to my teammates helping me and other guys earn the honor to be finalist for certain awards."

On the defensive side of the football, there is Cody. Sure the surrounding cast is outstanding, but the huge man in the middle can't help but catch your eye.

Coming out of junior college Cody had less hype, but his massive size and obvious athleticism opened eyes in the fall practices. When he stepped onto the field in the opening game, Alabama fans were excited to see what the man mountain would do. He didn't disappoint. He had four tackles, including one for a loss, as Alabama's defense held Clemson to exactly zero yards rushing.

The Cody legend grew during the season, even though he was slowed in the second half with an injury. Following the Auburn game, Saban talked about how Cody was back at full strength and what it meant to the team.

"They can't single block him very often, and that helps the rest of our players in terms of how we can play as a defense, as well as how they can play individually," Saban said.

With Cody clogging up running lanes, Alabama's defense has half the battle won even before it starts.

And by the way, Cody knows something about winning. This was his second consecutive perfect regular season. Last season, he helped Gulf Coast to an 11-0 record and he went 12-0 with Alabama in the regular season this year before losing in the SEC Championship Game.

Smith and Cody formed the perfect storm of Not-So-Gentle Giants for the Crimson Tide this season.

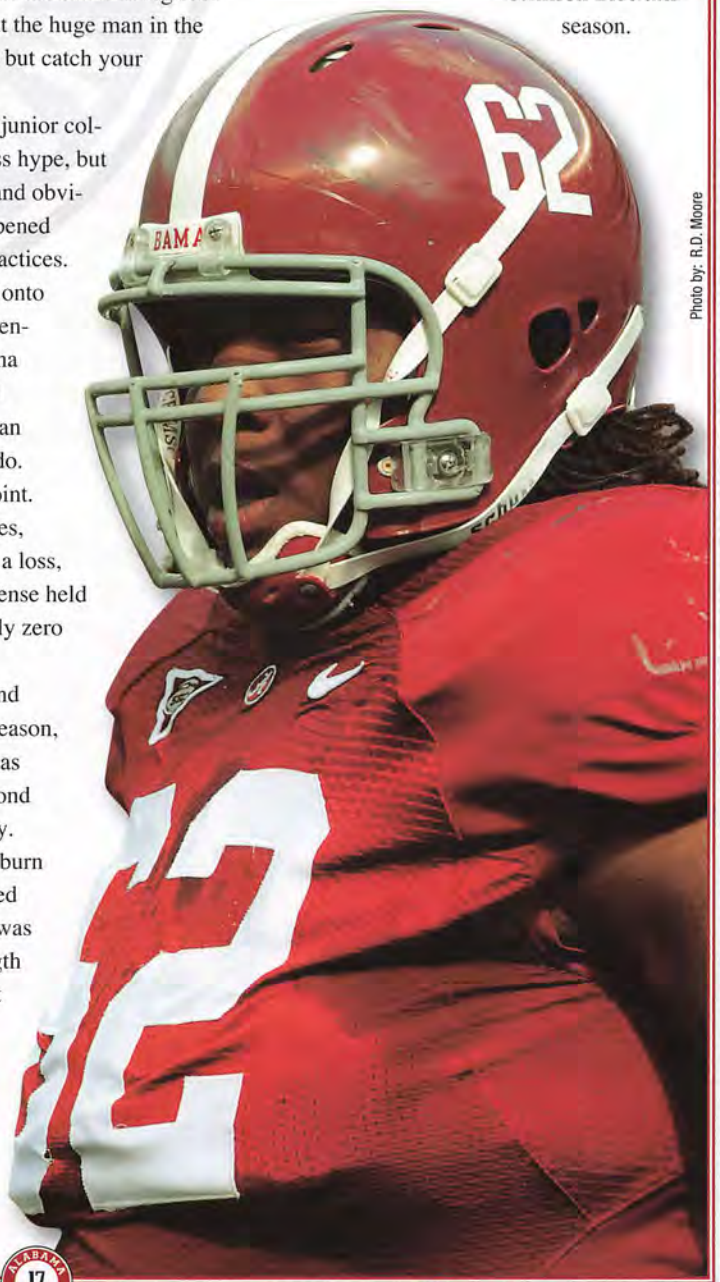


Photo by: R.D. Moore

ALABAMA VS. CLEMSON

8.30.08 / 34-10 / Georgia Dome, Atlanta Georgia / 70,097

Before Clemson and Alabama tangled in the season-opener, it was the much-maligned Tigers who received all the preseason accolades.

Thunder (James Davis) and Lightning (C.J. Spiller), Clemson's two talented tailbacks, adorned many a magazine cover and the Tigers' team as a whole was the clear-cut choice at Atlantic Coast Conference Media Days to win the conference title.

But when all the pre-game talk was quelled and the final horn sounded in a mixture of crimson, white, orange and purple in the Georgia Dome, it was Alabama that was the talk of the nation after dominating No. 9 Clemson 34-10 in convincing fashion.

"Nobody can be satisfied with a one-game performance," said Tide coach Nick Saban. "This will be a challenge for our team and it'll be interesting to see how they respond."

After Javier Arenas returned the game's opening kickoff 32 yards to the Alabama 36-yard line, the Crimson Tide offense got off to a great start with a 10-play, 27-yard drive that ended in a Leigh Tiffin field goal.

On the scoring drive, Alabama's offensive line pushed Clemson's defense around fairly easily. Glen Coffee rushed five times for 26 yards while freshman Mark Ingram carried the ball twice for eight yards.

It was a sign of things to come.

After Dont'a Hightower's fumble recovery led to another Tiffin field goal, Alabama forced Clemson to punt.

Arenas fielded the punt on the Crimson Tide 28-yard line and returned it 22 yards to the 50. An illegal formation penalty on Clemson moved the ball up five more yards, which set Bama up in excellent position to score again.

On the drive's opening play, John Parker Wilson connected with junior Mike McCoy for a nine-yard completion to the Clemson 36-yard line. Ingram would follow up the first down reception with three straight runs of 4, 12, 9 and 6 yards before being replaced by Coffee, who ended the day with 90 yards on 17 carries.

Coffee, who entered the game on 1st-and-10 from the Tigers 11, ran twice for 10 yards to the 1-yard line. From there, Wilson would find the end zone on a one-yard scoring plunge to up the Alabama lead to 13-0.

Clemson tacked on a 33-yard field goal on its ensuing possession, but Alabama answered immediately with a methodical 14-play drive that extended the Crimson Tide's lead to 20-3.

Tight end Nick Walker was the main target for Wilson on the 83-yard march. Not only did he catch the game's first passing touchdown, he also added four receptions for 36 yards on the drive.

Alabama ended the half with a 23-3 lead behind a dominating offense and a stingy defense. It would be the story of the game.

Clemson's tailback tandem of Davis and Spiller were held to a total of 20 yards rushing combined. The Tigers, as a team, were held to zero yards on the ground.

Cullen Harper, who was voted the preseason favorite to win the ACC Player of the Year, was knocked around like a rag doll against Alabama's tenacious defense. He finished the game completing 20 of 34 passes for 188 yards and an interception.

Newcomers Julio Jones, Ingram and Terrence Cody were all significant contributors in the Crimson Tide's impressive win over Clemson.

Jones caught four passes for 28 yards and a touchdown, Ingram carried the ball 17 times for 97 yards and Cody manhandled Clemson's offensive line on his way to four tackles.

All in all it was a great team effort for the Crimson Tide.

After the game, Wilson said, "I think we got something special here."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

John Parker Wilson's one-yard scoring run increased Alabama's lead to 13-0 in the first quarter but it was his arm that did Clemson in. Wilson completed a touchdown pass to tight end Nick Walker in the second quarter and freshman Julio Jones in the third to finish the night with 180 yards passing.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

When 6-5, 365-pound Terrence Cody signed with Alabama, he had the makeup of a potential impact player. After playing his first game against Clemson it was easy to see why. Cody recorded four tackles, including one for loss, as the Crimson Tide held the Tigers to zero yards rushing.

DEFINING MOMENT

After Alabama took a 3-0 lead on a 10-play, 27-yard drive, Clemson faced a 2nd-and-10 from its own 31-yard line. When the play ensued, Alabama linebacker Cory Reamer drilled running back Jamie Harper forcing the game's first fumble. The ball was recovered by freshman linebacker Dont'a Hightower, setting up another score.

BAMA
30
SCOREBOARD
1 2 3 4 T
ALABAMA 13 10 8 3 34
CLEMSON 0 3 7 0 10
ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE
ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: Rex Brown/Getty Images

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

09:43 UA - Leigh Tiffin 54 field goal, 10-27 5:17, UA 3 - CU 0
07:01 UA - Leigh Tiffin 21 field goal, 6-27 2:21, UA 6 - CU 0
02:51 UA - John Parker Wilson 1 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-45 2:24, UA 13 - CU 0

Second Quarter

14:17 CU - Mark Buchholz 33 field goal, 8-56 3:34, UA 13 - CU 3
06:01 UA - Nick Walker 4 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 14-83 8:16, UA 20 - CU 3
00:00 UA - Leigh Tiffin 34 field goal, 8-48 1:39, UA 23 - CU 3

Third Quarter

14:48 CU - C.J Spiller 96 kickoff return (Mark Buchholz kick), UA 23 - CU 10
04:08 UA - Julio Jones 4 pass from John Parker Wilson (Mark Ingram rush), 14-67 6:52, UA 31 - CU 10

Fourth Quarter

03:39 UA - Leigh Tiffin 26 field goal, 14-78 8:54, UA 34 - CU 10

Photo by: Rex Brown/Getty Images

Roy Upchurch

Team Statistics

	UA	CU
FIRST DOWNS	25	11
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	50-239	14-0
PASSING YDS (NET)	180	188
Passes Att-Comp-Int	30-22-0	34-20-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	80-419	48-188
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-23	1-9
Kickoff Returns-Yards	3-61	7-188
Interception Returns-Yards	1-7	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	2-36.5	4-40.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	6-40	6-43
Possession Time	41:13	18:47
Third-Down Conversions	11 of 17	1 of 9
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	1 of 2
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	6-6	1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	3-28	0-0

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Mark Ingram	17	97	1	96	0	28	5.6
Glen Coffee	17	90	0	90	0	18	5.3
Roy Upchurch	8	37	0	37	0	7	4.6
John Parker Wilson	4	19	0	19	1	15	4.8
Terry Grant	4	4	7	-3	0	2	-0.8

Clemson	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
James Davis	6	14	1	13	0	6	2.2
C.J. Spiller	2	8	1	7	0	8	3.5
Jacoby Ford	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Tyler Grisham	1	3	0	3	0	3	3.0
Jamie Harper	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cullen Harper	3	0	28	-28	0	0	-9.3

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	30-22-0	180	2	24	0

Clemson	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Cullen Harper	34-20-1	188	0	47	3

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Nick Walker	7	67	1	21
Roy Upchurch	4	30	0	11
Julio Jones	4	28	1	9
Mike McCoy	2	33	0	24
Mark Ingram	2	5	0	4
Glen Coffee	1	9	0	9
Travis McCall	1	8	0	8
B.J. Scott	1	0	0	0

Clemson	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Tyler Grisham	6	42	0	12
Aaron Kelly	5	28	0	15
Terrance Ashe	3	18	0	7
Jacoby Ford	2	53	0	47
C.J. Spiller	2	27	0	19
James Davis	1	11	0	11
Durrell Barry	1	9	0	9

2008 CRIMSON TIDE STARTERS

OFFENSE

ANDRE SMITH
Left Tackle
6-4 | 330 | Jr.

MIKE JOHNSON
Left Guard
6-6 | 299 | Jr.

ANTOINE CALDWELL
Center
6-3 | 305 | Sr.

MARLON DAVIS
Right Guard
6-2 | 300 | Sr.

DREW DAVIS
Right Tackle
6-7 | 300 | Jr.

NICK WALKER
Tight End
6-5 | 248 | Sr.

TRAVIS McCALL
Tight End
6-2 | 260 | Sr.

JULIO JONES
Wide Receiver
6-4 | 210 | Fr.

MIKE McCOY
Wide Receiver
6-2 | 195 | Jr.

GLEN COFFEE
Running Back
6-1 | 198 | Jr.

JOHN PARKER WILSON
Quarterback
6-2 | 211 | Sr.

LEIGH TIFFIN
Placekicker
6-1 | 199 | Jr.

DEFENSE

BOBBY GREENWOOD
Defensive End
6-5 | 278 | Sr.

TERRENCE CODY
Nose Guard
6-5 | 365 | Jr.

BRANDON DEADERICK
Defensive End
6-4 | 287 | Jr.

CORY REAMER
Outside Linebacker
6-4 | 218 | Jr.

ROLANDO McCLAIN
Inside Linebacker
6-4 | 249 | So.

DONT'A HIGHTOWER
Inside Linebacker
6-4 | 250 | Fr.

BRANDON FANNEY
Outside Linebacker
6-4 | 257 | Jr.

JAVIER ARENAS
Cornerback
5-9 | 198 | Jr.

KAREEM JACKSON
Cornerback
5-11 | 192 | So.

JUSTIN WOODALL
Strong Safety
6-2 | 220 | Jr.

RASHAD JOHNSON
Free Safety
6-0 | 186 | Sr.

P. J. FITZGERALD
Punter
5-11 | 198 | Jr.

ALABAMA VS. TULANE

9.6.08 / 20-6 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

Prior to the start of the game, Tulane received a warm welcome at Bryant-Denny Stadium considering the team had to evacuate New Orleans a week early due to the expected arrival of Hurricane Gustav.

When the game got underway, however, sympathy for the Green Wave ended as Alabama relied on a first quarter punt return by Javier Arenas and another stout defensive effort to pull out a 20-6 win.

After Alabama stopped the Green Wave on its first possession, Arenas, who finished the game with a school-record 212 total return yards, got the scoring started with an 87-yard punt return which tied him with David "The Deuce" Palmer for the most in school history (four).

He added returns of 2, 33 and 19 yards in the first half — which passed Harry Gilmore's old mark (122 yards) against Georgia in 1947 for the most yardage (141) by a returner in the first two quarters — before leaving the game in the third quarter after Tulane linebacker Jordan Ellis rocked Arenas after a six-yard punt return.

Shortly after Arenas' score, Darren deRochemont's punt attempt was blocked by running back Roy Upchurch. The loose ball was scooped up by defensive back Chris Rodgers and returned 17 yards to pay dirt.

"I was able to get inside the wing and block it," Upchurch said after the game. "It was a great feeling. It was almost like scoring a touchdown."

The extra point was missed, but the Tide had a two score lead despite looking totally out of sync on offense.

Playing without injured All-SEC left tackle Andre Smith, Alabama converted only 11 first downs the entire game and was held to just 172 total yards. The Crimson Tide also missed an extra point and a 37-yard field goal.

Coach Saban, who got didn't seem thrilled after winning his 100th career collegiate game, talked about his team becoming more consistent in all phases.

"It's a little disappointing. It's our goal to play with consistency ... but we were unable to do that," he said. "We did not make progress as a team."

John Parker Wilson, who was barely touched in the team's win over Clemson, was sacked four times and hit numerous others. He finished the day completing 11 of 23 passes for just 73 yards.

"We weren't clicking," Wilson said. "We didn't execute on third downs. We're not consistent. There are a lot of little things we have to correct. It's one thing on this play, one thing on another play."

If there was one constant for Alabama it was the running of tailbacks Mark Ingram and Glen Coffee and the superb play of the defense.

Ingram finished the game with 11 carried for 63 yards and a touchdown while Coffee ended the night with nine rushes for 55 yards.

Both backs averaged over five yards per carry and each topped the century mark in yards for the season despite receiving almost equal playing time in the first two games played.

Defensively, Alabama allowed Tulane yards but it never gave up the big play. Led by its athletic linebacking corps of Rolando McClain, Dont'a Hightower, Bandon Fanney and Cory Reamer, the Crimson Tide defense held its second straight offense to no touchdowns.

It also marked the second straight game an opponent was held under 100 yards rushing.

McClain finished with a team-high 15 tackles, Hightower ended the night with 10 tackles and a forced fumble, Fanney recorded eight tackles, including one for loss, and Reamer concluded his evening with seven tackles.

Senior captain Rashad Johnson also chipped in nine tackles and a pass breakup in the win.

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

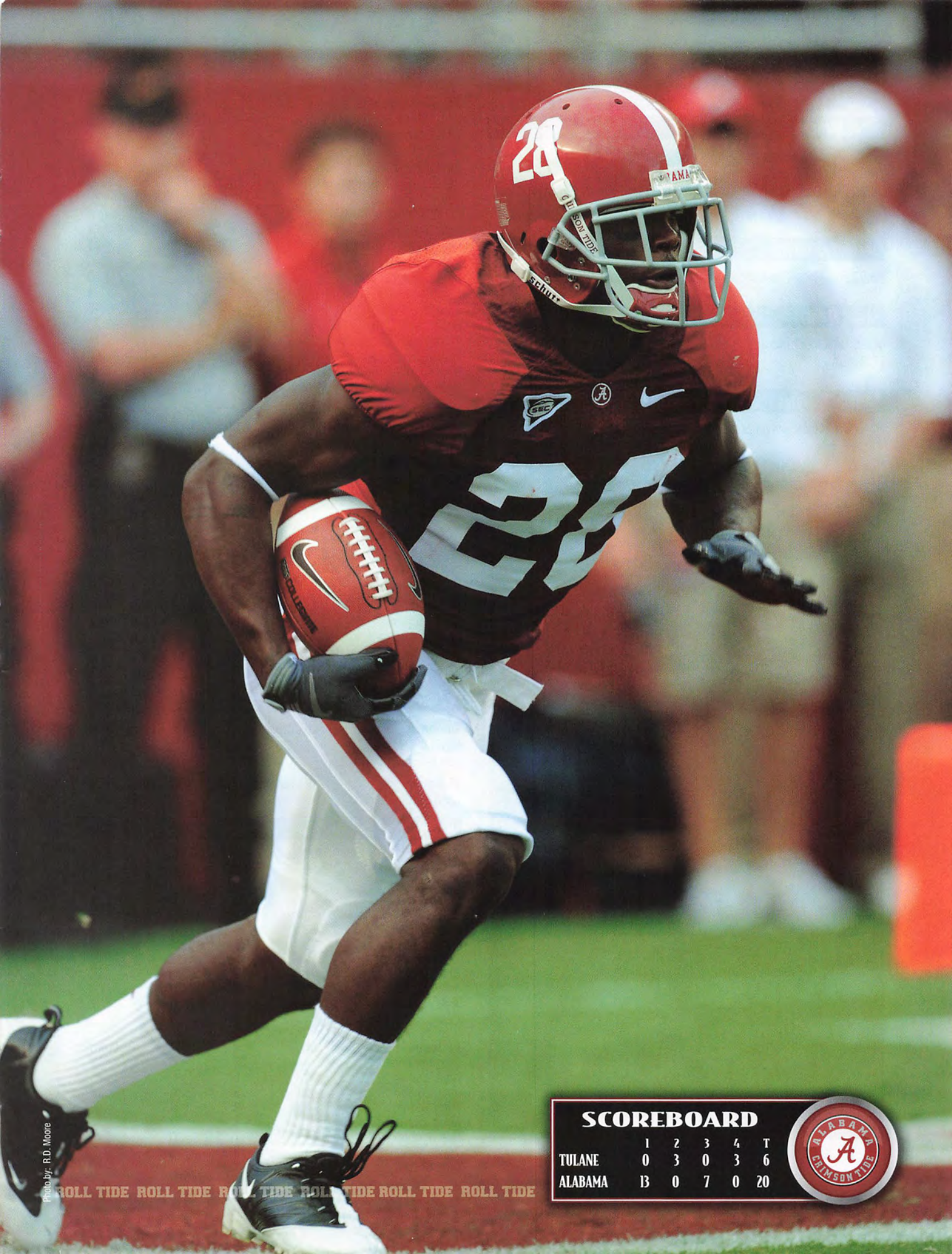
Freshman Mark Ingram paced the powerful Alabama running attack carrying the ball 11 times for 63 yards and a touchdown. Ingram averaged 5.7 yards per carry for the game and his 15-yard scoring run at the conclusion of the third quarter was the only offensive score of the game.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Rolando McClain was all over the field against the Green Wave. He recorded 15 tackles, two for loss, and a pass breakup in what was a dominating effort by the Crimson Tide defensive unit. It marked the second straight week Alabama's defense held an opponent under 90 yards rushing.

DEFINING MOMENT

Looking to pin Alabama deep in its own territory early in the first quarter, Tulane's Darren deRochemont skied a punt to return man Javier Arenas. Arenas received the punt at the Alabama 13-yard line, broke a tackle, and then raced down the left sideline for an 87-yard touchdown.



SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
TULANE	0	3	0	3	6
ALABAMA	13	0	7	0	20

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

10:45 UA - Javier Arenas 87 punt return (Leigh Tiffin kick), TU 0 - UA 7

03:15 UA - Chris Rogers 17 blocked punt return (Corey Smith kick failed), TU 0 - UA 13

Second Quarter

13:07 TU - Ross Thevenot 35 field goal, 12-42 5:08, TU 3 - UA 13

Third Quarter

00:00 UA - Mark Ingram 15 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 11-77 4:41, TU 3 - UA 20

Fourth Quarter

11:47 TU - Ross Thevenot 21 field goal, 11-70 3:13, TU 6 - UA 20

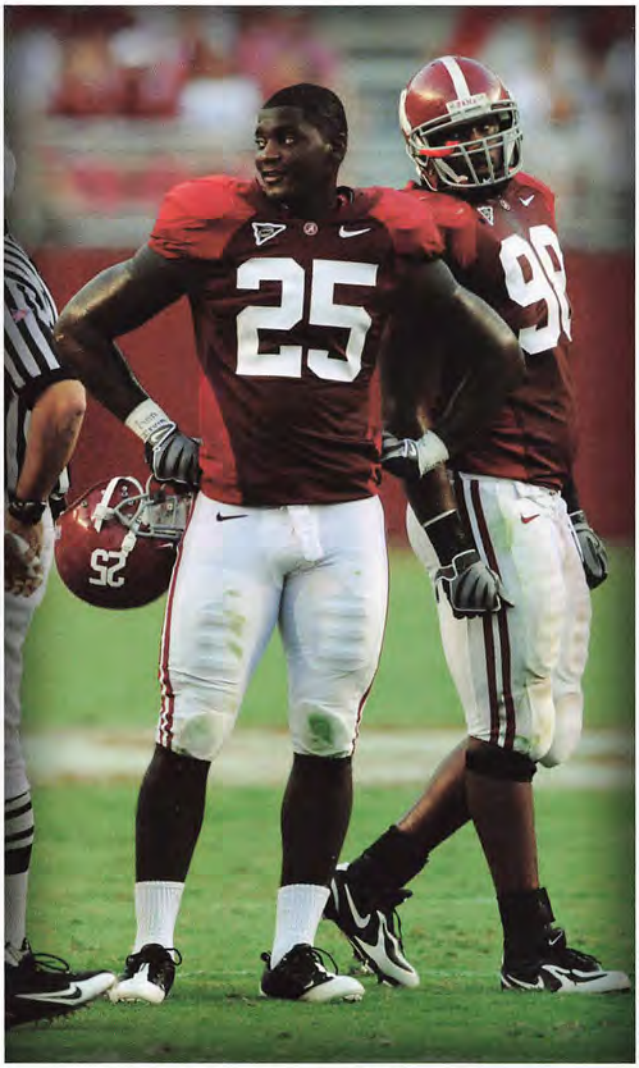


Photo by: R.D. Moore

Rolando McClain

Team Statistics

	TU	UA
FIRST DOWNS	18	11
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	32-86	26-99
PASSING YDS (NET)	232	73
Passes Att-Comp-Int	50-29-0	23-11-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	82-318	49-172
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-8	7-171
Kickoff Returns-Yards	3-46	3-91
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-32.3	7-40.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	4-29	6-43
Possession Time	36:35	23:25
Third-Down Conversions	7 of 20	3 of 11
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 2	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-3	1-2
Sacks By: Number-Yards	4-29	1-8

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Tulane	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Andre Anderson	13	38	6	32	0	11	2.5
Nathan Austin	5	24	0	24	0	10	4.8
Albert Williams	5	19	1	18	0	9	3.6
Jeremy Williams	4	11	0	11	0	5	2.8
Kevin Moore	4	9	8	1	0	4	0.2
Cody Blackwelder	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Alabama	**No**	**Gain**	**Loss**	**Net**	**TD**	**Lg**	**Avg**
Mark Ingram	11	64	1	63	1	16	5.7
Glen Coffee	9	55	0	55	0	9	6.1
Team	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-1.0
John Parker Wilson	5	11	29	-18	0	11	-3.6

Passing

Tulane	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Kevin Moore	49-28-0	225	0	45	1
Joe Kemp	1-1-0	7	0	7	0
Alabama	**Att-Cmp-Int**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**	**Sack**
John Parker Wilson	23-11-0	73	0	15	4

Receiving

Tulane	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Brian King	6	51	0	20
Andre Anderson	4	26	0	10
Jeremy Williams	4	26	0	10
Cody Blackwelder	3	22	0	11
Michael Bastiste	3	17	0	9
Nathan Austin	3	-5	0	0
Cody Sparks	2	14	0	9
Chris Dunn	1	45	0	45
Justin Kessler	1	26	0	26
Troy Wainwright	1	7	0	7
Casey Robottom	1	3	0	3
Alabama	**No.**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**
Marquis Maze	4	22	0	12
Nick Walker	1	15	0	15
Julio Jones	1	13	0	13
Terry Grant	1	9	0	9
Mark Ingram	1	7	0	7
Roy Upchurch	1	7	0	7
Travis McCall	1	3	0	3
Glen Coffee	1	-3	0	0

ALABAMA VS. WESTERN KENTUCKY

9.13.08 / 41-7 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

Quarterback John Parker Wilson became Alabama's all-time leader in total offense and Mark Ingram ran for two touchdowns as the Crimson Tide improved to 3-0 with a 41-7 rout of Western Kentucky in front of a sold-out crowd at Bryant-Denny Stadium on a Saturday night.

Wilson, who was sacked four times against Tulane a week earlier, completed 17 of 27 pass attempts for 215 yards and two touchdowns. It marked the first time in three games that the senior passed for more than 200 yards.

"The entire offense played a lot better than last week," said Wilson, who passed Brodie Croyle's old total offense mark of 6,205 yards. "It was good to come out and start the way we did. We were able to sustain the whole game."

In addition to Wilson's record-setting day, Alabama rolled up 557 yards of total offense, its highest total since gaining 644 against LSU in 1989. Needless to say, it was a much improved effort over the previous week's 172 yard output versus Tulane.

Even Nick Saban was pleased.

"We started the game out srong, but most importantly we finished," he said. "That's what we wanted to try to accomplish. The goal in this game was to go prove that you could play to your capacity, you could play your best football."

Ingram, who finished the day with nine carries for 51 yards and two touchdowns, kicked off the scoring barrage with a seven-yard dash to paydirt on Alabama's first possession. He would add another first quarter touchdown run on the Crimson Tide's third possession, which increased the home team's lead to 17-0.

Alabama tacked on another touchdown early in the second quarter when Terry Grant, who rushed eight times for 48 yards for the game, scored on an eight-yard touchdown run. It increased the Crimson Tide's lead to 24-0.

Western Kentucky answered Grant's scoring run on its ensuing possession when quarterback David Wolke connected with Tristan Jones on a 30-yard touchdown pass.

Unfortunately for Wolke, who completed 14 of 25 passes for 116 yards, and the Hilltoppers (1-2), it would be their only score of the game.

"We didn't make plays, and I don't think we were physical enough up front," Wolke said. "They came out and did a really good job of holding us."

The Crimson Tide increased its lead to 34-7 right before halftime after Wilson found tight end Nick Walker for a two-yard touchdown pass. It was Walker's second touchdown reception on the young season and one of his three catches on the day.

"This just gets the kinks out," said junior Glen Coffee, who averaged 8.8 yards per attempt on 11 carries for 97 yards.

In the second half, freshman sensation Julio Jones, who had five receptions for 66 yards, got in on the scoring fun midway through the third quarter. His 12-yard touchdown catch put the Crimson Tide up by a convincing 34 points, which was an insurmountable deficit for the Hilltoppers to overcome.

After the game, Western Kentucky coach David Elson mentioned drawing the Crimson Tide on the schedule after a disappointing effort versus Tulane.

"We didn't catch this game with really good timing with Alabama coming off the Tulane game, and that got their attention," Elson said. "When Alabama is playing at their best, they're pretty good."

Nick Saban, who wanted to evaluate some younger defensive players, also chimed in on his thoughts after the game, "I wish we wouldn't have kept the ball so long, because there were some defensive players we wanted to see a little more," he said. "But it didn't work out that way."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

John Parker Wilson became Alabama's career leader in total offense surpassing Brodie Croyle on the school's all-time list. Wilson, who completed 11 of 17 attempts, passed for 215 yards and two touchdowns in leading Alabama to its third straight regular season win.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Junior defensive back Justin Woodall recorded five tackles, including one for loss, an interception and a pass breakup as Alabama's defense held Western Kentucky to 116 yards passing. It was Woodall's third straight game that he finished with four tackles or more and his second pass breakup of the year.

DEFINING MOMENT

After taking a 7-0 lead on an 11-play, 63-yard drive on its first possession, Alabama's defense went to work. On Western Kentucky's first play, Terrence Cody jarred the ball loose from tailback Marell Booker and recovered the fumble on the Hilltoppers' 17-yard line. It led to a 10-point Bama lead.

Photo by: R.D. Moore

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
WESTERN KENTUCKY	0	7	0	0	7
ALABAMA	17	14	10	0	41

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

08:42 UA - Mark Ingram 7 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 11-63 4:21, WKU 0 - UA 7
06:30 UA - Leigh Tiffin 22 field goal, 6-11 2:01, WKU 0 - UA 10
00:49 UA - Mark Ingram 5 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 5-56 2:19, WKU 0 - UA 17

Second Quarter

09:51 UA - Terry Grant 8 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 8-78 3:46, WKU 0 - UA 24
04:21 WKU - Tristan Jones 30 pass from David Wolke (Tanner Siewert kick), 4-36 2:24, WKU 7 - UA 24
01:57 UA - Nick Walker 2 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 6-70 2:24, WKU 7 - UA 31

Third Quarter

09:57 UA - Leigh Tiffin 25 field goal, 11-54 5:03, WKU 7 - UA 34
04:57 UA - Julio Jones 12 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-56 2:32, WKU 7 - UA 41

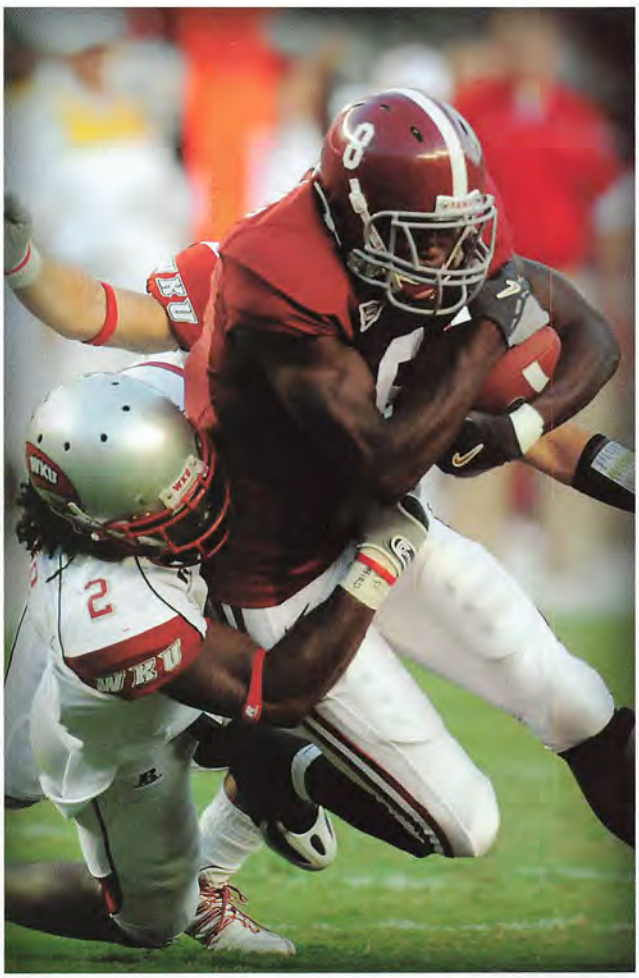


Photo by: R.D. Moore

Julio Jones

Team Statistics

	WKU	UA
FIRST DOWNS	9	30
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	22-42	49-281
PASSING YDS (NET)	116	276
Passes Att-Comp-Int	26-14-1	33-21-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	48-158	82-557
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	4-53
Kickoff Returns-Yards	8-161	1-9
Interception Returns-Yards	1-18	1-1
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-36.4	0-0.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	5-27	3-25
Possession Time	22:39	37:21
Third-Down Conversions	3 of 12	9 of 14
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 2	3 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	0-0	7-9
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	1-12

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Western Kentucky	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Bobby Rainey	4	11	0	11	0	5	2.8
David Wolke	7	23	13	10	0	13	1.4
Tyrell Hayden	5	12	3	9	0	6	1.8
Derrius Brooks	1	7	0	7	0	7	7.0
Dexter Taylor	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Marell Booker	4	10	10	0	0	7	0.0

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	11	98	1	97	0	51	8.8
Roy Upchurch	11	53	0	53	0	14	4.8
Mark Ingram	9	51	0	51	2	9	5.7
Terry Grant	8	48	9	39	1	18	4.9
Demetrius Goode	7	21	0	21	0	7	3.0
John Parker Wilson	3	23	3	20	0	20	6.7

Passing

Western Kentucky	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
David Wolke	25-14-1	116	1	30	1
Brandon Smith	1-0-0	0	0	0	0

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	27-17-1	215	2	36	0
Greg McElroy	6-4-0	61	0	22	0

Receiving

Western Kentucky	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Derrius Brooks	6	40	0	14
Wenquel Graves	4	29	0	20
Tristan Jones	1	30	1	30
Jessie Quinn	1	11	0	11
Brad Savko	1	9	0	9
Tyrell Hayden	1	-3	0	0

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	5	66	1	36
Earl Alexander	3	50	0	27
Mike McCoy	3	42	0	22
Nick Walker	3	14	1	6
Marquis Maze	2	25	0	23
Terry Grant	1	22	0	22
Nikita Stover	1	18	0	18
Darius Hanks	1	18	0	18
Will Oakley	1	13	0	13
Preston Dial	1	8	0	8

ALABAMA VS. ARKANSAS

9.20.08 / 49-14 / Razorback Stadium / 72,315

Coach Nick Saban told his team all week long that he wanted it to start fast.

When the first quarter ended in Fayetteville, the point was well taken as No. 9 Alabama (4-0) jumped out to a 21-point lead and never looked back, hammering Arkansas 49-14 for its first SEC win of the season.

"All week coach was talking about coming out firing and hitting them in the mouth quick," said Javier Arenas, who finished the game with three tackles, an interception and a pass breakup. "I think we did that. It seemed like they knew we were here to play a little football from the get-go."

Mark Ingram got the scoring started in the first quarter on a one-yard run. Then, Glen Coffee, who averaged 16.2 yards per carry, got in on the action, shooting right through the teeth of the Arkansas defense for an 87-yard gallop to pay dirt. It was Coffee's first touchdown of the season and a career long for the junior from Ft. Walton Beach. It also increased Alabama's lead to 14-0 with less than seven minutes to go in the quarter.

"We made a lot of big plays which led to relatively short drives, but we'll take those whenever we can," said Saban.

With their backs against the wall and in need of a score, Arkansas finally moved the ball into Crimson Tide territory, but an errant Casey Dick pass was picked off by Arenas and ran back for a 63-yard back-breaking touchdown. It was the first time since Nov. 4, 2006 (Jeffrey Dukes) that an Alabama player returned an interception for a score in a game.

Unfortunately for Dick, it wouldn't be his last interception returned for a touchdown.

After Arkansas scored on a fourth-down pass early in the second quarter, John Parker Wilson connected with Julio Jones on a beautiful 25-yard pass play to up Alabama's lead to 28-7. The touchdown may have not seemed significant to Razorback fans, but it was for Wilson, who broke Brodie Croyle's (41) career-record for touchdown passes with 42.

Moments after Wilson's record-setting touchdown pass, Justin Woodall intercepted Dick in the middle of the second quarter and raced down the right sideline for a 74-yard score. Although Dick tried to make the tackle, he whiffed as Woodall scored the second defensive touchdown of the afternoon.

It was the first time in Alabama's prestigious football history that two interceptions were returned for touchdowns in the same game. The Crimson Tide's 49 points were also the most scored in an SEC game since a 59-28 win over Vanderbilt in 1990.

"We can't give up 14 points on two stupid throws," Dick said. "It's my fault. I have to look at the film and get better. When you make bad throws like that, you just feel horrible."

Trying to cut into the lead at the end of the half, Arkansas faced a 1st-and-goal at the 1-yard line. After two rush attempts were snuffed out by Alabama's defense, Dick tried to hit De'Anthony Curtis, but his pass fell incomplete. On 4th-and-goal, the Razorbacks attempted to run once more with Michael Smith, but he was hit immediately by defensive tackle Terrence Cody and linebacker Rolando McClain and failed to score.

It was just another highlight in a game that featured numerous highlights for Alabama. It was also a sign that the Crimson Tide players know what their coach expects out of them.

"My message to my team was, you really don't have to be sick to get better," Saban said. "There are a lot of things we can improve on from this game."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Tailback Glen Coffee ran well for Alabama during the first three games, but he couldn't seem to find the end zone. Against Arkansas, he did just that scoring on runs of 87 and 31 yards to lead the Crimson Tide past the Razorbacks. Coffee finished the afternoon with 162 yards rushing.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Javier Arenas scored on a 63-yard interception return and Justin Woodall scored on a 74-yard pick-six as Alabama's defense forced quarterback Casey Dick to throw three interceptions in 39 pass attempts. Arenas also added three tackles and a pass breakup while Woodall chipped in four tackles and a pass deflection.

DEFINING MOMENT

Facing 2nd-and-6 on the Alabama 42-yard line, Dick was picked of by Arenas at the Alabama 37-yard line. After the interception, Arenas raced down the sideline as Dick gave chase. Near the 20-yard line, Arenas sidestepped the Arkansas quarterback, forcing him to fall, as he entered the end zone.

Photo by: Wesley Hitt/Getty Images

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

10:40 UA - Mark Ingram 1 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 10-71 4:20, UA 7 - AR 0
06:52 UA - Glen Coffee 87 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 1-87 0:13, UA 14 - AR 0
00:53 UA - Javier Arenas 63 interception return (Leigh Tiffin kick), UA 21 - AR 0

Second Quarter

10:30 AR - Andrew Davie 12 pass from Casey Dick (Alex Tejada kick), 9-47 5:23, UA 21 - AR 7
08:31 UA - Julio Jones 25 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 5-68 1:59, UA 28 - AR 7
06:15 UA - Justin Woodall 74 interception return (Leigh Tiffin kick), UA 35 - AR 7

Third Quarter

14:05 UA - Glen Coffee 31 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 2-34 0:41, UA 42 - AR 7

Fourth Quarter

10:59 AR - Michael Smith 10 pass from Tyler Wilson (Alex Tejada kick), 6-34 1:48, UA 42 - AR 14
10:36 UA - Roy Upchurch 62 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 1-62 0:23, UA 49 - AR 14

Photo by: Wesley Hitt/Getty Images

Terry Grant

Team Statistics

	UA	AR
FIRST DOWNS	15	19
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	35-328	31-92
PASSING YDS (NET)	74	217
Passes Att-Comp-Int	15-6-1	46-24-4
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	50-402	77-309
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	5-20	3-20
Kickoff Returns-Yards	3-34	8-184
Interception Returns-Yards	4-131	1-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-45.2	7-43.4
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	1-10	5-30
Possession Time	25:14	34:46
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 11	5 of 17
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	2 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	1-1	2-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-15	1-12

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	10	162	0	162	2	87	16.2
Roy Upchurch	7	91	0	91	1	62	13.0
Mark Ingram	6	53	0	53	1	26	8.8
Terry Grant	10	35	3	32	0	10	3.2
John Parker Wilson	2	2	12	-10	0	2	-5.0

Arkansas	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Michael Smith	19	98	7	91	0	30	4.8
De'Anthony Curtis	3	10	0	10	0	6	3.3
Casey Dick	4	6	1	5	0	4	1.2
Dennis Johnson	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0
Brandon Barnett	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Tyler Wilson	2	0	15	-15	0	0	-7.5

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	14-6-0	74	1	26	1
Greg McElroy	1-0-1	0	0	0	0

Arkansas	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Casey Dick	39-20-3	190	1	21	0
Tyler Wilson	7-4-1	27	1	10	2

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Earl Alexander	2	38	0	26
Terry Grant	2	5	0	8
Julio Jones	1	25	1	25
Nick Walker	1	6	0	6

Arkansas	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Michael Smith	6	67	1	21
DJ Williams	5	48	0	13
Jarius Wright	2	26	0	15
Lucas Miller	2	20	0	15
London Crawford	2	15	0	11
Greg Childs	2	11	0	14
De'Anthony Curtis	2	6	0	3
Andrew Davie	1	12	1	12
Joe Adams	1	7	0	7
Dennis Johnson	1	5	0	5

ALABAMA VS. GEORGIA

9.27.08 / 41-30 / Sanford Stadium / 92,746

Stunned!

That was one of several words to describe the look on thousands of faces in Athens, Georgia after No. 8 Alabama (5-0, 2-0 SEC) invaded Sanford Stadium and defeated No. 3 Georgia 41-30 in record-setting fashion.

The Crimson Tide jumped out to an impressive 31-point halftime lead behind dominating play in the trenches and a red-hot John Parker Wilson, who became Alabama's all-time career-passing leader on a 29-yard completion to Roy Upchurch.

"We just got whipped," said Georgia (4-1, 1-1 SEC) coach Mark Richt, who faced the largest halftime deficit in his tenure as Bulldogs head coach. "There's no excuses, and don't expect any from me."

Wilson finished the night completing 13-of-16 passes for 205 yards and a touchdown. He led Alabama on scoring drives in all five of its first half possessions.

"That was nice," said Wilson. "That is what you practice for, that is what you strive to do on every drive."

Julio Jones, who played his best game in a Crimson Tide uniform to date, was a favorite target of Wilson's all night. The freshman from Foley, Alabama put on a receiving clinic, catching five passes for 94 yards and a score. His dazzling over-the-shoulder catch at the conclusion of the first half not only put the game out of reach, it also set an Alabama record for touchdown catches (four) in a season by a freshman.

Glen Coffee, Mark Ingram and Roy Upchurch were the Crimson Tide's primary ground threats. Aided by the play of offensive linemen Andre Smith, Mike Johnson, Antoine Caldwell, Marlon Davis and Drew Davis, the Alabama trio rushed for 121 yards and four touchdowns.

Coffee led all the Bama tailbacks with 23 carries for 86 yards and two touchdowns. Upchurch and Ingram chipped in a touchdown each.

Alabama's rushing total was not overly impressive, but with Georgia being assessed so many penalty yards, it didn't have to be.

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Once again it was John Parker Wilson. The senior from Hoover opened the game hitting his first seven passes as he led Alabama on scoring drive after scoring drive. Wilson's touchdown pass to Julio Jones in the back of the end zone was the play of the game.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

With Alabama up 31-0, 23 seconds remaining and Georgia on the move, strong safety Justin Woodall picked off quarterback Matthew Stafford to end the threat and the first half. He ended the night with five tackles, a forced fumble, an interception (returned 12 yards) and a pass break-up.

DEFINING MOMENT

On the fifth play of a 63-yard scoring drive, John Parker Wilson hit Julio Jones on a fly route in the back corner of the end zone for a 22-yard touchdown. It increased Alabama's lead to 31-0 and sent the Bulldogs into the locker room dumbfounded.

Dressed in black jerseys for the "blackout" against the Crimson Tide, Georgia, who entered the game as the most penalized team in the SEC, was penalized twice in the first half for roughing the passer calls. The Dawgs were also flagged several more times for false starts.

In fact, the Bulldogs were penalized 10 times for 81 yards, while Alabama was penalized only twice.

Dominating defensive tackle Terrence Cody, who disrupted the Bulldogs offensive line all night with his strength, may have had something to do with the early jumps on offense, but it was Alabama's defense as a unit that put the clamp down on Matthew Stafford, Knowshon Moreno and a talented Georgia offense.

Moreno was never a factor in the game and was held to just 34 yards on nine carries. It marked the fifth consecutive game Alabama held an opponent to under 100 yards rushing.

Stafford, who was picked off once, sacked twice and harassed often, finished the night completing 24-of-42 passes for 274 yards and two touchdowns, all coming with the game basically out of reach.

Defensively, Alabama was led by another strong performance from Justin Woodall. Woodall led the team with five tackles and also picked off an errant Stafford pass.

Cody, defensive lineman Lorenzo Washington, linebackers Brandon Fanney and Rolando McClain and defensive back Marquis Johnson were all standouts on a defense that's relentless when it has the lead on an opponent.

After the game, Nick Saban erased any concern about moving up in the polls.

"It doesn't matter now. It doesn't matter until the end," said Saban. "We have a lot of good football teams ahead of us."

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
ALABAMA	10	21	0	10	41
GEORGIA	0	0	10	20	30

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

08:32 UA - Mark Ingram 7 run (Leigh Tiffin kick),
11-80 6:28, UA 7 - GA 0
00:49 UA - Leigh Tiffin 23 field goal, 8-60 4:51, UA 10 - GA 0

Second Quarter

11:58 UA - Glen Coffee 3 un (Leigh Tiffin kick), 5-48 2:38, UA 17 - GA 0
06:47 UA - Roy Upchurch 4 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-33 3:15,
UA 24 - GA 0
01:25 UA - Julio Jones 22 pass from John Parker Wilson
(Leigh Tiffin kick), 6-63 3:10, UA 31 - GA 0

Third Quarter

11:07 GA - Blair Walsh 43 field goal, 7-47 3:53, UA 31 - GA 3
01:16 GA - Knowshon Moreno 2 run (Blair Walsh kick), 10-58 4:41,
UA 31 - GA 10

Fourth Quarter

14:41 GA - Prince Miller 92 punt return (Blair Walsh kick),
UA 31 - GA 17
09:45 UA - Leigh Tiffin 32 field goal, 8-51 4:48, UA 34 - GA 17
04:13 UA - Glen Coffee 12 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 5-47 3:02,
UA 41 - GA 17
03:00 GA - Michael Moore 24 pass from Matthew Stafford
(Matthew Stafford pass failed), 5-40 1:04, UA 41 - GA 23
01:35 GA - A.J. Green 21 pass from Matthew Stafford (Blair Walsh
kick), 6-58 1:21, UA 41 - GA 30

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Rolando McClain

Team Statistics

	UA	GA
FIRST DOWNS	21	18
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	45-129	16-50
PASSING YDS (NET)	205	274
Passes Att-Comp-Int	16-13-0	43-24-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	61-334	59-324
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-8	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-27	1-92
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-68	7-187
Interception Returns-Yards	1-12	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg	3-34.0	4-30.2
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	2-9	10-81
Possession Time	35:46	24:14
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 10	4 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	2 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	6-6	1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-18	1-5

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	23	88	2	86	2	15	3.7
Roy Upchurch	6	18	0	18	1	4	3.0
Mark Ingram	7	21	4	17	1	8	2.4
John Parker Wilson	5	18	5	13	0	7	2.6

Georgia	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Knowshon Moreno	9	34	0	34	1	11	3.8
Matthew Stafford	6	29	18	11	0	11	1.8
Caleb King	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	16-13-0	205	1	31	1

Georgia	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Matthew Stafford	42-24-1	274	2	26	2
Mohamed Massaquoi	1-0-0	0	0	0	0

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	5	94	1	31
Roy Upchurch	2	51	0	29
Mike McCoy	2	22	0	12
Nikita Stover	1	14	0	14
Nick Walker	1	11	0	11
B.J. Scott	1	7	0	7
Glen Coffee	1	6	0	6

Georgia	No.	Yds	TD	Long
A.J. Green	6	88	1	26
Michael Moore	5	65	1	24
Mohamed Massaquoi	4	33	0	13
Knowshon Moreno	3	14	0	13
Kris Durham	2	44	0	22
Kenneth Harris	2	28	0	17
Caleb King	2	2	0	4

ALABAMA VS. KENTUCKY

10.4.08 / 17-14 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

Holding its highest ranking in 15 years, Alabama was hoping to plow through Kentucky like it had its first five opponents.

When gametime arrived that wasn't the case.

The No. 2 Crimson Tide, behind a career-high 218 yards from Glen Coffee and a fourth quarter Leigh Tiffin field goal, survived a fourth quarter scare to escape with a 17-14 win over the scrappy Wildcats at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

Alabama held its sixth straight opponent to under 100 yards rushing defensively, but failed opportunities and penalties kept Kentucky in the game.

The Crimson Tide offense, which had scored 90 points in its last two games, was flagged for a season-high 10 penalties and turned the ball over three times, once inside the Kentucky 10-yard line.

"We're certainly happy to win but we also put on a clinic today for how to keep the other team in the game," said Nick Saban. "We didn't finish drives. We fumbled the ball inside the 10-yard line; we missed a field goal, so we left 10 points on the board. The defense did a good job in the first half and scored on defense, which was good.

"We had a season-high number of penalties, 10 for 92 yards, which is not indicative of our team. I think all those things lend itself to the fact that this was our first chance to go out and play after the team had been recognized on a national level, and that's a different kind of psychological management to handle success, and I would say that we didn't handle it extremely well today."

John Parker Wilson, who never seemed to establish a rhythm, completed just 7-of-17 passes for 106 yards and an interception. He was also sacked three times.

Coffee, despite his fumbling woes, was one of the only bright spots for Alabama offensively. The 6-1, 198-pound junior had one of the best days ever by a Crimson Tide running back, rushing for 218 yards and a touchdown on 25 carries.

"I'm thankful the offensive line was able to block and control the line of scrimmage the way they did," said Coffee. "I can't enjoy this as much as I want to because I put the ball on the ground. I still have things to work on."

Alabama ended the day with 282 yards rushing as a team.

"We want to be able to go out in any game and control the running game," said Coffee. "When we can establish the run it sets the tone for us. The offensive line has been a huge factor for us all season long and they played great again today."

With the score 14-0 midway through the third quarter, Kentucky quarterback Mike Hartline connected with Derrick Locke for a 36-yard completion to the Alabama 26-yard line. The next play, Hartline hit receiver Dicky Lyons on a 26-yard touchdown pass to trim Alabama's lead to seven.

Alabama increased the lead to 17-7 after Tiffin capped off a 15-play, 76-yard drive with a 24-yard field goal. Tiffin finished the day hitting just 1-of-3 field goal attempts.

On Kentucky's ensuing drive, Hartline completed three straight passes to move the Wildcats into Alabama territory. Facing a 3rd-and-10 just over midfield, Hartline connected with DeMoreo Ford for a 48-yard touchdown, which cut the Crimson Tide lead to 17-14 with 40 seconds remaining.

Kentucky followed the touchdown pass with a Lones Seiber on-side kick attempt but it was booted out of bounds, much to the disbelief of Wildcat coach Rich Brooks.

Alabama was rewarded the ball and ended the game in the famous V-formation.

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Glen Coffee, who recorded the sixth-best rushing performance in the history of Alabama football, rushed 25 times for a career-high 218 yards and a touchdown, pacing Alabama to a hard-fought win over undefeated Kentucky. Coffee's 78-yard scoring burst in the first quarter was his fifth rushing touchdown in three games.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Rolando McClain, who led the team with 10 tackles, scooped up quarterback Mike Hartline's fumble and ran it back four yards for a touchdown, giving the Crimson Tide a 14-0 first quarter lead. It was Alabama's third defensive touchdown of the season and its fifth non-offensive score of the year.

DEFINING MOMENT

With under a minute remaining to play, Hartline connected with receiver DeMoreo Ford on a 48-yard touchdown pass to trim Alabama's lead to 17-14. Kentucky then set up for a Lones Seiber on-side attempt, but the junior from Knoxville, Tennessee kicked the ball out of bounds.

Photo by: Kent Gidley

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
KENTUCKY	0	0	7	7	14
ALABAMA	14	0	0	3	17

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

09:48 UA - Glen Coffee 78 run (Leigh Tiffin kick),
2-76 1:17, UK 0 - UA 7
01:02 UA - Rolando McClain 4 fumble recovery
(Leigh Tiffin kick), , UK 0 - UA 14

Third Quarter

05:49 UK - Dicky Lyons 26 pass from Mike Hartline
(Lones Seiber kick), 2-70 0:34, UK 7 - UA 14

Fourth Quarter

02:12 UA - Leigh Tiffin 24 field goal, 15-76 8:10, UK 7 - UA 17
00:40 UK - DeMoreo Ford 48 pass from Mike Hartline
(Lones Seiber kick), 8-78 1:32, UK 14 - UA 17

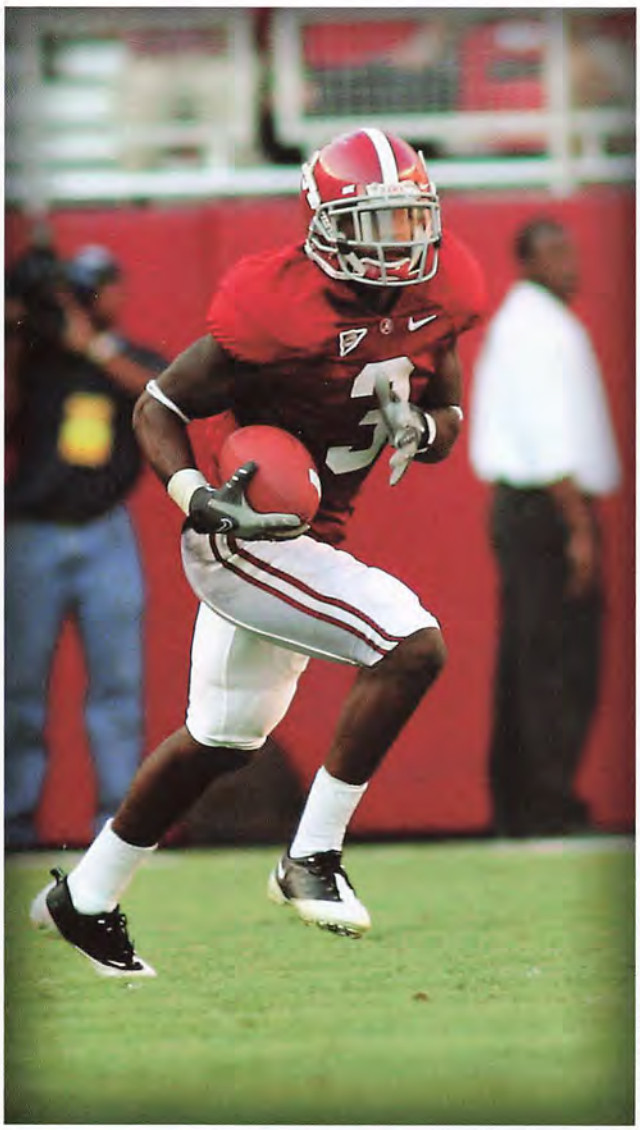


Photo by: Cory Johnson

Kareem Jackson

Team Statistics

	UK	UA
FIRST DOWNS	12	15
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	20-35	49-282
PASSING YDS (NET)	241	106
Passes Att-Comp-Int	42-20-1	17-7-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	62-276	66-388
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	1-4
Punt Returns-Yards	2-14	5-52
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-86	1-17
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	1-5
Punts (Number-Avg)	10-43.2	6-43.2
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	9-58	10-92
Possession Time	24:15	35:45
Third-Down Conversions	5 of 17	5 of 16
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 1	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	0-0	1-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	3-20	1-6

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Kentucky	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Derrick Locke	6	28	0	28	0	8	4.7
Alfonso Smith	7	18	0	18	0	6	2.6
Tony Dixon	3	10	0	10	0	7	3.3
Moncell Allen	1	0	2	-2	0	0	-2.0
Mike Hartline	3	3	22	-19	0	3	-6.3

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	25	219	1	218	1	78	8.7
Mark Ingram	11	71	5	66	0	36	6.0
Roy Upchurch	5	19	0	19	0	8	3.8
Marquis Maze	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0

Passing

Kentucky	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Mike Hartline	42-20-1	241	2	48	1

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	17-7-1	106	0	24	3

Receiving

Kentucky	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Derrick Locke	8	81	0	36
Dicky Lyons	6	63	1	26
Maurice Grinter	3	29	0	23
E.J. Adams	2	20	0	17
DeMoreo Ford	1	48	1	48

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	3	52	0	23
Nick Walker	2	30	0	24
Glen Coffee	1	15	0	15
Nikita Stover	1	9	0	9

ALABAMA VS. OLE MISS

10.18.08 / 24-20 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

For the first time all season, No. 2 Alabama found itself in unfamiliar territory, trailing in a game. But it didn't last long, only 1:15 to be exact.

Down 3-0 midway through the first quarter, quarterback John Parker Wilson led the Crimson Tide on a four-play, 73-yard touchdown drive that was capped off by a 26-yard touchdown pass on a fade route to Marquis Maze.

"At that point it was all about helping the team," said Maze, who ended the day with two catches for 29 yards. "We practiced that play all week and it paid off."

It was the first career touchdown catch for Maze and it gave Alabama its first lead of the day, 7-3.

"It felt great to make the play and help the team out," Maze said. "It was nice to make a big play in front of the home crowd."

After the Crimson Tide defense held Ole Miss on its next two possessions, Alabama increased its lead to 14-3 when Mark Ingram ran behind left tackle Andre Smith for a two-yard touchdown.

Ingram and tailback Glen Coffee were the workhorses on the drive, rushing a combined eight times for 36 yards. Ingram finished the game with 73 yards and a score, while Coffee ended with 13 carries for 52 yards.

On the Rebels ensuing possession, Alabama safety Justin Woodall made one of the biggest plays of the game. He picked off quarterback Jevan Snead, setting up the Crimson Tide with a 1st-and-10 at the Ole Miss 32-yard line. Alabama failed to find the end zone, but a Leigh Tiffin field goal increased the lead to 17-3 with less than five minutes to go in the second quarter.

Just three plays after Andrew Friedman kicked off, Ole Miss tailback Dexter McCluster, not Snead, was picked off by Rashad Johnson on a 3rd-and-7. Johnson returned the interception 29 yards, which put the Tide in an excellent position to score again.

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

After struggling against Kentucky the week before, John Parker Wilson threw for 219 yards and two touchdowns on 16-of-25 attempts. Wilson connected with freshman Marquis Maze on a 26-yard touchdown reception in the first quarter and found junior Mike McCoy on a 30-yard scoring pass late in the second quarter.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Senior captain Rashad Johnson showed why he was an All-SEC first-team selection a season ago after recording nine tackles, one forced fumble and an interception. His interception of "Wild Rebel" tailback Dexter McCluster at the Ole Miss 45-yard line eventually led to an Alabama touchdown and a 24-3 lead.

DEFINING MOMENT

Facing a 3rd-and-15 with under 1:20 remaining in the game and down by four, Ole Miss quarterback Jevan Snead connected with McCluster for a 10-yard completion to the Alabama 43-yard line. Facing a must-have fourth down play, Snead's pass fell incomplete to McCluster, who was well-covered by Javier Arenas.

"Coach had actually said it. Third and nine and they came out in it," said Johnson. "I think, two weeks ago when they played Florida they came out in third and nine in the same formation and ran the same play.

"They faked like they were going to run it and threw it to that guy. They (coaches) put us in great position and I was able to make the play."

Moments after the Johnson turnover, Wilson handed off to Coffee, who pitched back to Wilson and then found Mike McCoy on a 30-yard flea-flicker pass for a score which increased Alabama's lead to 24-3. It sent the sold-out Bryant-Denny crowd into an uproar.

"We have been practicing that for five years and I can't believe it got called actually," said Wilson. "Mike did a good job of getting open and I was able to give him a good ball."

After intermission, Ole Miss came out gunning. The Rebels scored 17 unanswered points behind a fake field goal for a score, a Shay Hodge 17-yard touchdown reception and a Joshua Shene 35-yard field goal.

It wouldn't be enough however as Alabama's Javier Arenas blanketed McCluster on a huge 4th-and-5 with 1:05 left in the game to preserve the Crimson Tide's seventh victory of the season.

After the game, Nick Saban talked about finishing in the second half.

"We're not just focused on winning, our focus is a lot on how we win and a big goal for us today, I talked about it at halftime, was to go out and play and do a better job in the second half, and obviously we didn't do that."

Photo by: R.D. Moore

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
OLE MISS	3	0	7	10	20
ALABAMA	7	17	0	0	24

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

05:25 UM - Joshua Shene 25 field goal, 7-72 3:23, UM 3 - UA 0
04:10 UA - Marquis Maze 26 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 4-73 1:15, UM 3 - UA 7

Second Quarter

06:34 UA - Mark Ingram 2 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 11-60 5:11, UM 3 - UA 14
04:45 UA - Leigh Tiffin 41 field goal, 4-8 1:35, UM 3 - UA 17
02:51 UA - Mike McCoy 30 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick), 2-31 0:45, UM 3 - UA 24

Third Quarter

10:37 UM - Jason Cook 9 pass from Rob Park (Joshua Shene kick), 10-52 4:23, UM 10 - UA 24

Fourth Quarter

09:27 UM - Shay Hodge 17 yd pass from Jevan Snead (Joshua Shene kick), 5-34 1:41, UM 17 - UA 24
06:09 UM - Joshua Shene 35 yd field goal, 7-34 2:01, UM 20 - UA 24

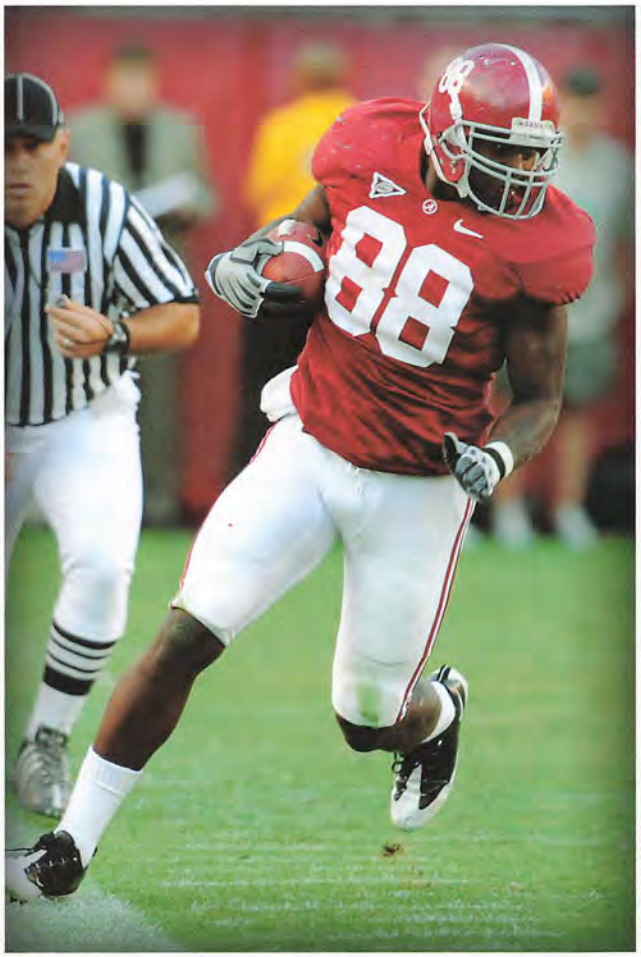


Photo by: R.D. Moore

Nick Walker

Team Statistics

	UM	UA
FIRST DOWNS	14	15
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	34-158	34-107
PASSING YDS (NET)	201	219
Passes Att-Comp-Int	33-17-2	25-16-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	67-359	59-326
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	1-(-9)
Punt Returns-Yards	5-23	2-14
Kickoff Returns-Yards	5-108	5-121
Interception Returns-Yards	1-11	2-41
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-45.4	7-39.7
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	4-27	6-55
Possession Time	29:35	30:25
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 14	3 of 11
Fourth-Down Conversions	2 of 4	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-16	2-13

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Ole Miss	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Enrique Davis	11	74	4	70	0	62	6.4
Dexter McCluster	7	33	5	28	0	9	4.0
Brandon Bolden	7	27	2	25	0	10	3.6
Jevan Snead	5	36	13	23	0	17	4.6
Cordera Eason	3	6	0	6	0	4	2.0
Markeith Summers	1	6	0	6	0	6	6.0
Alabama	**No**	**Gain**	**Loss**	**Net**	**TD**	**Lg**	**Avg**
Mark Ingram	17	73	0	73	1	19	4.3
Glen Coffee	13	62	10	52	0	14	4.0
John Parker Wilson	2	0	16	-16	0	0	-8.0

Passing

Ole Miss	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Jevan Snead	31-16-1	192	1	33	2
Dexter McCluster	1-0-1	0	0	0	0
Rob Park	1-1-0	9	1	9	0
Alabama	**Att-Cmp-Int**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**	**Sack**
John Parker Wilson	25-16-1	219	2	40	2

Receiving

Ole Miss	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Shay Hodge	4	64	1	33
Dexter McCluster	3	21	0	10
Lionel Breaux	2	55	0	31
Mike Wallace	2	24	0	15
Jason Cook	2	13	1	9
Brandon Bolden	2	10	0	9
Markeith Summers	1	9	0	9
Jevan Snead	1	5	0	5
Alabama	**No.**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**
Nick Walker	5	65	0	40
Julio Jones	3	63	0	40
Mike McCoy	3	45	1	30
Marquis Maze	2	29	1	26
Glen Coffee	2	1	0	6
Brad Smelley	1	16	0	16

ALABAMA VS. TENNESSEE

10.25.08 / 29-9 / Neyland Stadium / 106,138

Behind a dominating defensive performance and a big rushing night from Roy Upchurch, No. 2 Alabama (8-0, 5-0 SEC) beat Tennessee 29-9 for its first back-to-back series wins since 1991-92.

"I've never been prouder of our team, our players the way they competed in the game," said Alabama coach Nick Saban. "Tennessee's got a good football team and they played with a lot of heart and a lot of toughness out there tonight. That was a really good football team."

The Crimson Tide defense, which held Tennessee (3-5, 1-4 SEC) to 36 yards rushing, was put in a second-quarter hole after tailback Montario Hardesty blocked a P.J. Fitzgerald punt giving the Vols excellent field position at the Alabama 32-yard line.

After Dont'a Hightower and Brandon Fanney bottled up Lennon Creer for a 1-yard gain on first down, Tennessee quarterback Nick Stephens was pressured by Lorenzo Washington and forced to throw the ball away. Stephens completed a short pass to Denarius Moore on 3rd-and-9 but Moore was hit immediately by defensive back Ali Sharrief and Brandon Fanney for a three-yard loss.

Tennessee sent kicker Daniel Lincoln out to tie the score at six, but his 52-yard attempt fell short, giving Alabama the ball at its own 34-yard line. Four plays later, Glen Coffee, who had 78 yards on 19 carries, found the end zone on a 3-yard touchdown run. It upped Bama's lead to 13-3 and deflated a stunned Vols crowd at Neyland Stadium

Trailing by 10 with 2:35 left in the first half, Tennessee marched to the Alabama 26-yard line on a 10-play, 52-yard drive. It would all be for naught however, as Lincoln pushed a 43-yard field goal wide left as time expired in the first half.

"Them missing a field goal before the half was a real momentum thing," Saban said.

In the second half, it was Alabama's running game that salted the game away. Coffee's running at the start of the third quarter led to a Leigh Tiffin field goal and a 16-3 Alabama lead.

Tiffin was perfect on the night, hitting field goals of 39, 43 and 30 yards.

With a 22-3 lead early in the fourth quarter, the Crimson Tide put the game out of reach when a Roy Upchurch touchdown capped off an eight-play, 80-yard scoring drive. It increased the Alabama lead to 29-3 with 9:43 remaining in the game.

Upchurch, who averaged 6.1 yards per carry, led all Crimson Tide rushers with 86 yards on 14 carries.

Julio Jones was also a big factor in the Alabama passing game. The 6-4, 210-pound freshman caught six John Parker Wilson passes for 103 yards. It was the first 100-yard game of his Crimson Tide career.

Wilson completed 17-of-24 attempts for 188 yards.

"We didn't start off the way we've been starting off," Wilson said. "We kind of got behind and had to come back and score in the second half, and I think we did a really good job."

Defensively, Hightower led Alabama with seven tackles. Rashad Johnson also had a big day, recording six tackles, a pass break-up and a sack.

The win over the Vols was the Crimson Tide's third in the last four meetings. It also increased Saban's record against Tennessee to 4-1.

After the game Tennessee coach Philip Fulmer spoke about the rivalry between the two schools.

"It's just a special rivalry and a special game to all of us involved in it in different ways. I'll be back up tomorrow. I'm not down. I just got a lot on my mind right now," Fulmer said.

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Roy Upchurch was Alabama's big-play threat against Tennessee, carrying the ball 14 times for 86 yards and a score. The junior from Godby High School in Tallahassee scored from four yards out with 9:43 left in the fourth quarter. It was his third touchdown of the season.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Freshman Dont'a Hightower was the leading tackler on a defense that held Tennessee to 10 first downs and just 173 yards of total offense. Hightower, who plays the WILL (inside linebacker) position in Alabama's 3-4 defensive scheme, finished the night with seven tackles, including one for a four-yard loss.

DEFINING MOMENT

After Leigh Tiffin increased Alabama's lead to 16-3 with 10:28 remaining in the third quarter, the Crimson Tide defense held the Vols to a three-and-out on their next possession. Alabama then marched right down the field on a 12-play, 79-yard scoring drive which was capped by a John Parker Wilson touchdown.

BAMA
MCCOY
SCOREBOARD
1 2 3 4 T
ALABAMA 6 7 9 7 29
TENNESSEE 3 0 0 6 9
ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE
ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: Andy Lyons/Getty Images

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

10:18 UA - Leigh Tiffin 39 field goal, 11-50 4:42, UA 3 - UT 0
06:28 UT - Daniel Lincoln 31 field goal, 4--9 1:34, UA 3 - UT 3
01:37 UA - Leigh Tiffin 43 field goal, 5-21 2:00, UA 6 - UT 3

Second Quarter

02:41 UA - Glen Coffee 3 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 6-66 3:03, UA 13 - UT 3

Third Quarter

10:28 UA - Leigh Tiffin 30 field goal, 6-20 3:16, UA 16 - UT 3
01:38 UA - John Parker Wilson 1 run (John Parker Wilson pass failed), 12-79 6:25, UA 22 - UT 3

Fourth Quarter

09:43 UA - Roy Upchurch 4 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 8-80 4:31, UA 29 - UT 3
07:26 UT - Josh Briscoe 10 pass from Nick Stephens (Nick Stephens pass failed), 7-63 2:07, UA 29 - UT 9

Photo by: Andy Lyons/Getty Images

Rolando McClain & Dont'a Hightower

Team Statistics

	UA	UT
FIRST DOWNS	23	10
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	43-178	21-36
PASSING YDS (NET)	188	137
Passes Att-Comp-Int	24-17-0	28-16-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	67-366	49-173
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	3-17	1-(-1)
Kickoff Returns-Yards	3-50	7-134
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	3-38.0	7-43.7
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	3-35	7-60
Possession Time	35:32	24:28
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 13	3 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	2 of 2	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	2-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-16	0-0

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Roy Upchurch	14	86	0	86	1	19	6.1
Glen Coffee	19	79	1	78	1	13	4.1
Terry Grant	4	17	6	11	0	8	2.8
John Parker Wilson	2	2	0	2	1	1	1.0
Mark Ingram	4	3	2	1	0	2	0.2
Tennessee	**No**	**Gain**	**Loss**	**Net**	**TD**	**Lg**	**Avg**
Arian Foster	6	21	0	21	0	9	3.5
Montario Hardesty	8	17	5	12	0	5	1.5
Lennon Creer	3	7	0	7	0	5	2.3
Nick Stephens	4	12	16	-4	0	12	-1.0

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	24-17-0	188	0	35	0
Tennessee	**Att-Cmp-Int**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**	**Sack**
Nick Stephens	28-16-0	137	1	26	2

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	6	103	0	35
Nick Walker	3	24	0	11
Roy Upchurch	2	13	0	10
Will Oakley	1	14	0	14
Mike McCoy	1	13	0	13
Brad Smelley	1	8	0	8
Nikita Stover	1	6	0	6
Glen Coffee	1	4	0	4
Marquis Maze	1	3	0	3
Tennessee	**No.**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Long**
Josh Briscoe	4	46	1	17
Arian Foster	3	32	0	19
Luke Stocker	2	30	0	26
Austin Rogers	2	17	0	9
Brandon Warren	2	8	0	8
Lucas Taylor	1	4	0	4
Eric Berry	1	3	0	3
Denarius Moore	1	-3	0	0

ALABAMA VS. ARKANSAS STATE

11.1.08 / 35-0 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

No. 2 Alabama relied on four rushing touchdowns and a 32-yard interception return by Rashad Johnson to cruise past Arkansas State 35-0 and improve to 9-0 on the season.

Mark Ingram, Glen Coffee and Roy Upchurch were a three-headed monster at tailback as the Crimson Tide ran for 205 yards on 36 carries.

The star of the dynamic-trio was Ingram, who rushed 12 times for 113 yards and two touchdowns. It was the first time that the freshman from Flint, Michigan had rushed for 100 yards in his Crimson Tide career.

"He's a great runner and a really smart kid," said quarterback John Parker Wilson, who completed 15-of-28 passes for 152 yards. "He understands the game really well. He doesn't let anything get to him. For the next three years he is going to be great."

After a first quarter Ingram touchdown, Alabama added its second score of the game when safety Rashad Johnson picked off an errant Arkansas State quarterback Corey Leonard pass and returned it 32 yards for a touchdown. It was Johnson's second pick of the season and it gave the Crimson Tide a 14-0 lead.

Coach Nick Saban discussed the defense on the interception return.

"We blitzed. They were in four wide-outs. They used "scan" protection, where the back goes from one side to the other so they couldn't block both of our guys off the edge. They didn't block 26 (Ali Sharrief) so the quarterback had to throw the ball hot.

"He threw it high because we pushed the pocket pretty good and Rashad had good coverage on him. He made a good play and a really good run. That was a big play in the game because we were struggling a little bit there at the time only leading 7-0, so it worked out well for us."

"It was a good play call," said Johnson. "The coaches decided to bring pressure and keep the guy in the pocket because we knew he was a shorter guy and couldn't see over the linemen. I did a good job with my technique. I saw the ball and just put my hands up and got it. When I got it, I was determined to get in the end zone."

Johnson's interception return would be the last of the scoring for Alabama in the first half but the Crimson Tide came out smoking in the third quarter.

After a 13-yard kickoff return by Javier Arenas, Alabama opened shop at its own 30-yard line. Wilson opened the drive connecting with tight end Travis McCall on a six-yard pass play out to the 36. Ingram then shot off left tackle for a huge 30-yard burst and followed that up with a 12-yard spurt. Upchurch capped off the 1:23 scoring drive with a 22-yard run off left tackle. That increased the Alabama lead to 21-0 with 13:37 left in the quarter.

"They had a pretty good defensive front," said McCall. "They tried to slant towards Andre (Smith) a bit but we were able to get around that. Running the ball has been a focus for us all season long and we were able to build off of that."

Alabama's defense was also impressive in recording its first shutout of the season.

Johnson led all Alabama defenders with 13 tackles but Brandon Deaderick (1.5 sacks), Bobby Greenwood (1.5 sacks) and Brandon Fanney (seven tackles) also played well.

"Our main focus coming in was stopping the run and keeping the quarterback from scrambling and keeping him in the pocket," said cornerback Kareem Jackson. "We did an excellent job with that today."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Mark Ingram scored on runs of 5 and 17 yards on his way to 113 yards rushing. It was the seventh and eighth touchdown runs of the season for Ingram and it tied him with sophomore Terry Grant for Alabama's freshman record for touchdowns in a season.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Rashad Johnson picked off Arkansas State quarterback Corey Leonard at the Red Wolves 32-yard line and raced to the end zone for a touchdown. It gave the Crimson Tide a 14-point lead with 8:54 remaining in the second quarter. Johnson's pick-six was Alabama's third of the season.

DEFINING MOMENT

After Alabama held Arkansas State on its opening possession, the Crimson Tide methodically marched down the field on a 16-play, 89-yard scoring drive that was capped off by a Glen Coffee touchdown run. It gave Alabama a 108-6 edge in first quarter points in its first nine games.

49
SCOREBOARD
1 2 3 4 T
ARKANSAS ST. 0 0 0 0 0
ALABAMA 7 7 14 7 35
ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE
ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: Courtesy of University of Alabama

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

04:23 UA - Glen Coffee 9 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 16-89 7:02,
ASU 0 - UA 7

Second Quarter

08:54 UA - Rashad Johnson 32 interception return (Leigh Tiffin kick),
ASU 0 - UA 14

Third Quarter

13:37 UA - Roy Upchurch 22 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 4-70 1:23,
ASU 0 - UA 21
02:20 UA - Mark Ingram 5 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-48 3:38,
ASU 0 - UA 28

Fourth Quarter

04:37 UA - Mark Ingram 17 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-45 3:03,
ASU 0 - UA 35

Photo by: Courtesy of University of Alabama

Mark Ingram

Team Statistics

	ASU	UA
FIRST DOWNS	11	21
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	37-91	36-205
PASSING YDS (NET)	67	152
Passes Att-Comp-Int	17-8-1	28-15-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	54-158	64-357
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-5	4-27
Kickoff Returns-Yards	5-96	1-13
Interception Returns-Yards	1-23	1-32
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-37.0	3-40.3
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	7-73	3-33
Possession Time	31:59	28:01
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 12	8 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 2	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	0-0	3-5
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-19	4-26

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Arkansas State	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Reggie Arnold	15	74	2	72	0	11	4.8
Derek Lawson	6	25	1	24	0	8	4.0
Jermaine Robertson	3	16	2	14	0	11	4.7
Corey Leonard	13	23	42	-19	0	16	-1.5

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Mark Ingram	12	113	0	113	2	30	9.4
Glen Coffee	9	56	0	56	1	12	6.2
Roy Upchurch	5	32	1	31	1	22	6.2
John Parker Wilson	8	26	19	7	0	8	0.9
Terry Grant	2	1	3	-2	0	1	-1.0

Passing

Arkansas State	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Corey Leonard	17-8-1	67	0	26	4

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	28-15-1	152	0	24	2

Receiving

Arkansas State	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Kevin Jones	3	16	0	6
Jahbari Mclennan	1	26	0	26
Taylor Clements	1	9	0	9
Anthony Robinson	1	6	0	6
Jeff Blake	1	6	0	6
Trevor Gillott	1	4	0	4

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	5	62	0	21
Mike McCoy	3	26	0	15
Marquis Maze	1	24	0	24
Brad Smelley	1	11	0	11
Darius Hanks	1	10	0	10
Glen Coffee	1	9	0	9
Travis McCall	1	6	0	6
Mark Ingram	1	2	0	2
Earl Alexander	1	2	0	2

ALABAMA VS. LSU

11.8.08 / 27-21 / Tiger Stadium / 93,039

John Parker Wilson got the scoring started with a one-yard touchdown run in the first quarter and ended the game with a one-yard scoring plunge as No. 1 Alabama defeated LSU 27-21 in overtime before the largest crowd ever at Tiger Stadium.

"First of all, I'd like to say the game is about the players and it was a great college football game," said Tide coach Nick Saban. "The players on both sides played their hearts out. LSU's team played an outstanding game. Our players played hard in the game with a lot of tenacity and overcame a lot of adversity."

After Rashad Johnson picked off quarterback Jarrett Lee on the Tigers first possession in overtime, Wilson connected with Julio Jones on a 24-yard pass which set the Crimson Tide up with a 1st-and-goal at the 1-yard line. Wilson then took the snap from center Antoine Caldwell and lunged into the end zone for one of the biggest touchdowns of his career.

The game-winning touchdown kept Alabama's undefeated season alive and captured the SEC Western Division title for Saban in just his second season on the job.

"After that interception, Coach Saban said let's take a shot, so of course we threw it to Julio Jones," said Wilson about the play that set up the game's final score. "He made a great play. It was a back shoulder ball; (He made) great adjustment. He was able to beat them out."

"We decided to go with a big play off the bat to Julio (Jones) which we hit one play and that makes a big difference," Saban explained. "LSU is a good goal line defensive team. We struggled to get it in but we got it in and would have kicked a field goal or tried to again. Hopefully we wouldn't have gotten it blocked.

"I congratulated our players after the game, but I also asked them if they thought they played their best game," added Saban. "Do you think we played better than we did before? Do you think we made improvements as a team? Those are the kind of things that even though we clinched a spot with the SEC West, you get what your expectations are. If you have a high level of expectations that you expect to achieve and accomplish, then you obviously have a better chance of getting there."

Johnson tied the Alabama single-season record for interceptions returns for a score when he returned a second quarter interception of Lee back 54 yards for a touchdown. It was one of three picks on the day for Johnson and his 11th as a Crimson Tide player.

"He was sitting in the pocket and I think got a little pressure," said Johnson, who tied the game at 14 with his pick-six. "He left it up a little too high and I was in the area to pick it off and run up the field and my teammates made some great blocks for me down field."

Glen Coffee and Jones continued their excellent play. Coffee led all rushers with 126 yards on 26 carries. Jones had his best game to date, catching a season-high seven passes for 128 yards.

Dont'a Hightower paced the Alabama defenders with 11 tackles, including 1.5 for loss. Javier Arenas added nine tackles and a pass defended while Rolando McClain recorded eight tackles and an interception.

"For the first time this season we've had to come from behind, play the whole game and win in overtime," said an excited Wilson after the game. "I think it was great for our team."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Glen Coffee broke the 1,000-yard mark on the season after rushing 26 times for 126 yards and a touchdown. It marks just the 13th time in Alabama football history that a tailback has rushed for more than 1,000 yards in a season — the first since Kenneth Darby did so in 2005.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Rashad Johnson had one of the best defensive games by an Alabama defensive back ever after recording four tackles and three interceptions, one of which he returned for a touchdown. It was the second consecutive game Johnson returned a pick of an opposing quarterback for a score.

DEFINING MOMENT

On LSU's first possession of overtime, the Tigers were faced with a 3rd-and-6 at the Alabama 21-yard line. Jarrett Lee, who was 13-of-34 passing for 181 yards, a touchdown and four interceptions, threw to the back of the end zone but Johnson made a leaping interception for a turnover.

Photo by: R.D. Moore

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	OT	T
ALABAMA	7	7	7	0	6	27
LSU	14	0	0	7	0	21

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

08:23 UA - John Parker Wilson 1 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 4-15 1:43, UA 7 - LSU 0
06:21 LSU - Demetrius Byrd 30 pass from Jarrett Lee (Colt David kick), 6-54 2:06, UA 7 - LSU 7
05:57 LSU - Charles Scott 30 run (Colt David kick), 2-30 0:12, UA 7 - LSU 14

Second Quarter

04:33 UA - Rashad Johnson 54 interception return (Leigh Tiffin kick), UA 14 - LSU 14

Third Quarter

08:14 UA - Glen Coffee 3 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-69 3:12, UA 21 - LSU 14

Fourth Quarter

06:12 LSU - Charles Scott 1 run (Colt David kick), 14-74 6:02, UA 21 - LSU 21

Overtime

15:00 UA - John Parker Wilson 1 run, 3-25 0:00, UA 27 - LSU 21

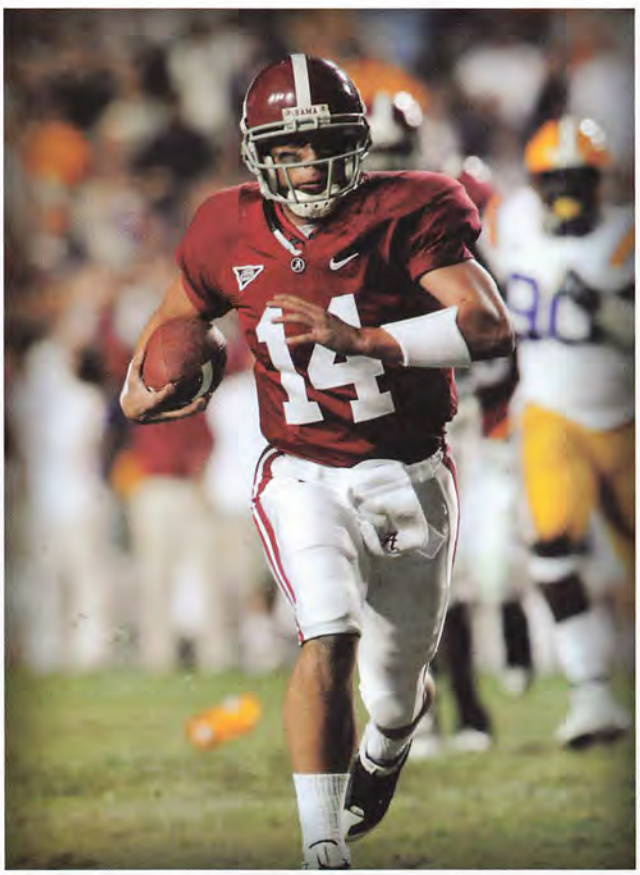


Photo by: R.D. Moore

John Parker Wilson

Team Statistics

	UA	LSU
FIRST DOWNS	16	17
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	37-138	46-201
PASSING YDS (NET)	215	181
Passes Att-Comp-Int	31-15-1	34-13-4
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	68-353	80-382
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	3-23	2-25
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-79	4-86
Interception Returns-Yards	4-76	1-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-42.1	8-40.1
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	0-0
Penalties-Yards	2-24	5-32
Possession Time	26:40	33:20
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 13	5 of 19
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-4	1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-3	0-0

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	26	132	6	126	1	31	4.8
John Parker Wilson	5	8	1	7	2	6	1.4
Mark Ingram	5	7	1	6	0	2	1.2
Team	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-1.0

LSU	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Charles Scott	24	99	7	92	2	30	3.8
Keiland Williams	13	89	1	88	0	25	6.8
Trindon Holliday	2	9	0	9	0	9	4.5
Richard Murphy	2	9	1	8	0	9	4.0
Quinn Johnson	4	7	0	7	0	5	1.8
Jarrett Lee	1	0	3	-3	0	0	-3.0

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	31-15-1	215	0	26	0

LSU	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Jarrett Lee	34-13-4	181	1	30	1

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	7	128	0	26
Glen Coffee	2	19	0	11
Travis McCall	2	14	0	7
Mike McCoy	2	10	0	6
Earl Alexander	1	26	0	25
Nick Walker	1	18	0	18

LSU	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Brandon LaFell	4	74	0	29
Demetrius Byrd	4	51	1	30
Terrance Toliver	3	34	0	13
Richard Dickson	1	22	0	22
Keiland Williams	1	0	0	0

ALABAMA VS. MISSISSIPPI STATE

11.15.08 / 32-7 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

Like it had done all year long, No. 1Alabama jumped out to a first quarter lead and never looked back on its way to a 25-point win over struggling Mississippi State.

Kicker Leigh Tiffin, punter P.J. Fitzgerald and return specialist Javier Arenas made their presence felt on special teams, while tailbacks Mark Ingram and Glen Coffee pounded away at the midsection of the Bulldogs to keep the Crimson Tide undefeated for one more week.

Tiffin hit one field goal from 34 yards out and nailed two from 35 yards. He ended the night 3-for-3 kicking.

Fitzgerald, whose longest boot of the night was 46 yards, averaged an impressive 43 yards per punt and dropped three inside the 20-yard line.

"He's done a really good job all year long," said coach Nick Saban about Fitzgerald. "He's been much more consistent this year. He's added a little distance and a little hang time. He was outstanding tonight, had great punts with good hang time, and they had very little return yardage. He has done a really good job consistency wise all year long.

"I'm really pleased and happy with the way our team came out and played in the second half," said Saban. "I think that special teams, probably as much as any game this year, had a tremendous impact on the field position in this game with certainly Javier Arenas and his returning, but also a good job by the return teams and that had a big impact on the game."

Arenas, who went untouched on a third quarter 80-yard return for a touchdown, ran for a school-record 153 yards on six punt returns. The junior from Tampa bested his own previous mark of 147 punt return yards which he set earlier in the year against Tulane on September 6. He also became the Crimson Tide's all-time leader in punt return yardage with 1,146 yards.

"The wall was there," said Arenas. "My teammates set up it up nicely. The blocks were there and all I had to do was run. I was able to get comfortable back there and relax and use the blocks that were there for me."

Coffee continued his excellent season running the football. He carried 17 times for 71 yards. Meanwhile, Ingram broke Terry Grant's Alabama record for touchdown runs by a freshman with a fourth quarter scoring run. He finished with 13 rushes for 78 yards and a touchdown.

"It makes our job so much easier when you have backs like Mark (Ingram) and Glen (Coffee) who can stick it in there and wear down the defense," said center Antoine Caldwell, who helped pace Alabama to 198 yards rushing. "They did a great job tonight.

"We know that establishing the run is an important part of our game and has been a big part of what we have done all season," Caldwell added. "Especially in the second half when we needed to use the clock, we put it on our shoulders to finish the game."

By holding Mississippi State to 35 yards rushing on 22 attempts for the game, Alabama improved to 12-2 under Saban when holding opponents under 100 yards rushing, including a 9-0 mark in 2008.

Alabama also recorded its first safety of the season when cornerback Kareem Jackson blocked a first quarter punt attempt. It was the first time since October 6, 2007 (Houston) that the Crimson Tide recorded a safety.

"I want to congratulate Coach Saban and the Alabama team," said Mississippi State coach Sylvester Croom. "They're undefeated, and we wish them luck the rest of the season."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Leigh Tiffin's three field goals against the Bulldogs gave him 46 out of 67 successful field goals in his Alabama career. He ranks fourth in field goals made, behind Phillip Doyle (78 in 105 attempts from 1987-90), Michael Proctor (65-of-91 from 1992-95) and Tiffin's father, Van Tiffin (59-of-88 from 1983-86).

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Rolando McClain had a huge night against Mississippi State. The sophomore from Decatur tallied 11 tackles, including two for loss, a pass breakup and two sacks. He and the rest of the Crimson Tide defense held the Bulldogs to just 35 yards rushing and one first down via the ground.

DEFINING MOMENT

After Alabama stopped Mississippi State on its opening drive to start the third quarter, Blake McAdams punted to Javier Arenas, who caught the ball on the Crimson Tide 24-yard line. Arenas, who gained a school-record 153 punt return yards, went untouched on a perfectly-blocked 80-yard return to increase Bama's lead to 19-7.

Photo by: R.D. Moore

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
MISSISSIPPI ST.	0	7	0	0	7
ALABAMA	5	7	10	10	32

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

10:03 UA - Team safety, , MSU 0 - UA 2
01:43 UA - Leigh Tiffin 35 field goal, 9-35 4:39, MSU 0 - UA 5

Second Quarter

10:19 MSU - Jamayel Smith 31 pass from Tyson Lee (Adam Carlson kick), 7-78 3:43, MSU 7 - UA 5
04:47 UA - John Parker Wilson 1 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 2-2 0:42, MSU 7 - UA 12

Third Quarter

12:14 UA - Javier Arenas 80 punt return (Leigh Tiffin kick), MSU 7 - UA 19
03:51 UA - Leigh Tiffin 34 field goal, 8-35 3:23, MSU 7 - UA 22

Fourth Quarter

11:14 UA - Leigh Tiffin 35 field goal, 12-71 6:21, MSU 7 - UA 25
07:58 UA - Mark Ingram 1 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 3-72 0:58, MSU 7 - UA 32

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Leigh Tiffin

Team Statistics

	MSU	UA
FIRST DOWNS	9	17
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	22-35	48-198
PASSING YDS (NET)	132	166
Passes Att-Comp-Int	28-11-0	19-12-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	50-167	67-364
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-1	7-161
Kickoff Returns-Yards	7-153	2-29
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	10-37.4	5-43.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-0
Penalties-Yards	5-25	5-52
Possession Time	24:27	35:33
Third-Down Conversions	2 of 12	6 of 14
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	0-0	5-5
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-10	2-12

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Mississippi State	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Anthony Dixon	11	26	0	26	0	5	2.4
Wesley Carroll	1	7	0	7	0	7	7.0
Tyson Lee	6	22	17	5	0	8	0.8
Arceto Clark	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Christian Ducre	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
A Stallworth	2	0	3	-3	0	0	-1.5

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Mark Ingram	13	78	0	78	1	40	6.0
Glen Coffee	17	71	0	71	0	12	4.2
Jeramie Griffin	5	27	0	27	0	8	5.4
John Parker Wilson	11	29	10	19	1	11	1.7
Demetrius Goode	2	3	0	3	0	2	1.5

Passing

Mississippi State	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Tyson Lee	28-11-0	132	1	32	2

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	17-10-0	148	0	37	2
Greg McElroy	2-2-0	18	0	9	0

Receiving

Mississippi State	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Anthony Dixon	4	32	0	11
Jamayel Smith	2	46	1	31
Brandon McRae	2	15	0	8
A Stallworth	1	32	0	32
Aubrey Bell	1	7	0	7
Arceto Clark	1	0	0	0

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	3	53	0	34
Brad Smelley	2	46	0	37
Darius Hanks	2	24	0	12
Travis McCall	1	12	0	12
Glen Coffee	1	11	0	11
Jeramie Griffin	1	9	0	9
Nick Walker	1	6	0	6
Mark Ingram	1	5	0	5

ALABAMA VS. AUBURN

11.29.08 / 36-0 / Bryant-Denny Stadium / 92,138

Isn't it great to be on top?

That's what Alabama fans were saying after their No. 1 ranked Crimson Tide rolled to a 36-0 win over arch-rival Auburn to finish the season 12-0 and bring the Tigers six-game winning streak to a screeching halt.

"My emotions are through the roof," said senior safety Rashad Johnson, who finished Senior Day with five tackles, a fumble recovery and a pass breakup in his last home game. "I cannot really explain how it feels. It is just a great feeling. We did it in a first class manner, with a shutout, and were able to dominate the game."

It was the largest margin of victory in the series dating back to a 38-0 Alabama win in 1962. It also marked the first time the Crimson Tide had shut out the Tigers since a 17-0 Thanksgiving Day win back in 1992.

"It has been a long time since we have been able to do this," said senior John Parker Wilson, who played his last game at Bryant-Denny Stadium. "It says a lot about our seniors and the leaders that we have. To come out and score all these points, it feels good, but we have a lot left that we have to do. We will learn from this game and get ready for the next one."

Even coach Nick Saban was caught up in the emotion of the win, as he and wife Terry celebrated with the Alabama players in the locker room after the game.

"I told them that I was proud of them, that this was a great win, and they made a lot of people proud. I'm happy for our fans," said a joyous Saban. "We've had great atmospheres at the University of Alabama since I've been here and never any better than it was tonight at this game. They've (fans) had a tremendous impact on this team, and I really think that they are proud of the way the team plays as well as the character that the team has shown.

"This team has represented this university and this state in a first class way, and I'm really proud of that. It's a great accomplishment to get where they are now, and they did it with a lot of hard work and perseverance."

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Running back Glen Coffee, who ended the regular season with 1,235 yards rushing on 199 carries, ran 20 times for 144 yards and a touchdown to pace Alabama to a dominating win over arch-rival Auburn. Coffee's 41-yard scoring burst in the second quarter was his ninth of the season.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Nose guard Terrence Cody dominated the Auburn line of scrimmage recording three tackles, including one for loss, a fumble recovery and a half sack. On Mark Ingram's one-yard scoring run midway through the third quarter, Cody, who was playing fullback, scattered Auburn defenders looking to stuff the play.

DEFINING MOMENT

After an incomplete pass by Auburn quarterback Kodi Burns set up fourth down, Clinton Durst punted the ball out of bounds at the Alabama 34-yard line. Four plays later, Coffee scored on a 41-yard run to push the Crimson Tide's lead to 10-0. It was all the points Bama needed.

Alabama used the same formula against the Tigers that it had on its previous 11 opponents. Get a quick lead, play sound defense and grind the game out.

The Crimson Tide did just that after Leigh Tiffin nailed a 37-yard field goal to conclude the first quarter. It capped off a 15-play, 76-yard scoring drive that ate up nearly eight minutes of clock.

Glen Coffee increased Bama's lead to 10-0 when he shot off right tackle for a 41-yard touchdown run. Coffee, who averaged 7.2 yards per carry, ended the evening with 144 yards on 20 rushes.

"I was able to go around the outside and Drew (Davis) had it shielded off," said Coffee. "I just saw the daylight when I turned the corner. The line had cut off everybody, so it was just a race to the end zone."

After Alabama's first possession of the second half stalled, P.J. Fitzgerald punted to Robert Dunn, who returned the kick to the Auburn 32-yard line. After an eight-yard run by Brad Lester got the ball to the Tigers 40-yard line, Lester fumbled a Kodi Burns handoff. The ball was recovered by MIKE linebacker Rolando McClain at the Auburn 39-yard line.

On the ensuing play, Alabama went for the knockout blow — and landed it — when Wilson connected with senior Nikita Stover on a 39-yard touchdown pass. Stover's reception put the Crimson Tide up 16-0 early in the third frame, but a blocked extra point kept the lead from increasing.

Just three plays after the Stover touchdown grab, which was his first of the season, Burns fumbled at the Auburn 45-yard line. The ball was recovered by Terrence Cody at the spot which set the Crimson Tide up in great

SCOREBOARD
1 2 3 4 T
AUBURN 0 0 0 0 0
ALABAMA 3 7 19 7 36
ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE
ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE
Photo by: R.D. Moore

field position once again.

After two Coffee runs, Wilson dumped a screen pass off to Mark Ingram for a 27-yard gain to the Auburn 22-yard line. Two plays later, Julio Jones, who had three catches for 36 yards, made a great 15-yard grab at the Auburn 3.

After a 2-yard run by Ingram set up 2nd-and-goal, Cody checked into the game as a blocker in the Crimson Tide backfield. When the ball was snapped Wilson handed to Ingram, who found the end zone for his first score of the game.

On the run, however, Cody was the center of attention. As he accelerated toward the goal line, several Auburn defenders looked like they didn't want to challenge the big fella, which resulted in Ingram going in basically untouched.

After the game, Saban talked about what Cody means to the Alabama defense, which held Auburn to 57 yards on the ground and 170 yards of total offense.

"It helps us tremendously, because he's hard to single block," said Saban about his monster nose guard, who wasn't quite 100 percent after a knee injury sustained against Ole Miss. "I made the comment last week that I thought he practiced a lot better, and that he had his quickness and mobility back. I think the bye week helped him. I also think it helped his conditioning."

Alabama's win over Auburn tied Utah for the nation's longest winning streak at 13 games. It also put a fitting end to a great regular season that saw the Tide win the SEC West and emerge from the shadows to become a national force once again.

"It is big," said Cody about beating Auburn. "It is especially big for the seniors. Before the game all the defensive linemen all said that they were going to play this game for our lone senior on the line Bobby Greenwood, who finished with a blocked field goal and a half sack. We played this game for him and came out there and played hard."

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Rolando McClain

Photo by: R.D. Moore

John Parker Wilson & Offensive Line

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Bobby Greenwood & Terrence Cody

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

00:00 UA - Leigh Tiffin 37 field goal, 15-76 7:36, AU 0 - UA 3

Second Quarter

10:28 UA - Glen Coffee 41 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 4-65 1:38, AU 0 - UA 10

Third Quarter

13:15 UA - Nikita Stover 39 pass from John Parker Wilson (Leigh Tiffin kick blocked), 1-39 0:12, AU 0 - UA 16
07:35 UA - Mark Ingram 1 run (John Parker Wilson pass failed), 8-45 4:20, AU 0 - UA 22
02:10 UA - Mark Ingram 14 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 7-50 3:38, AU 0 - UA 29

Fourth Quarter

02:49 UA - Marquis Maze 34 pass from Greg McElroy (Leigh Tiffin kick), 5-53 2:51, AU 0 - UA 36

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Glen Coffee

Team Statistics

	AU	UA
FIRST DOWNS	8	21
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	30-57	50-234
PASSING YDS (NET)	113	178
Passes Att-Comp-Int	23-9-0	18-10-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	53-170	68-412
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-19	2-20
Kickoff Returns-Yards	7-122	0-0
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	9-42.6	5-33.4
Fumbles-Lost	3-3	1-0
Penalties-Yards	4-45	1-4
Possession Time	24:23	35:37
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 14	6 of 15
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	2 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	0-0	3-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-3	2-20

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Auburn	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Mario Fannin	8	30	2	28	0	8	3.5
Ben Tate	4	12	0	12	0	3	3.0
Brad Lester	6	15	4	11	0	8	1.8
Kodi Burns	12	29	23	6	0	13	0.5

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	20	153	9	144		41	7.2
Mark Ingram	15	65	1	64	2	14	4.3
Roy Upchurch	2	15	0	15	0	11	7.5
Terry Grant	7	14	3	11	0	7	1.6
Jeramie Griffin	1	2	0	2	0	2	2.0
John Parker Wilson	4	6	6	0	0	4	0.0

Passing

Auburn	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Kodi Burns	23-9-0	113	0	27	2

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	16-8-0	134	1	39	1
Greg McElroy	2-2-0	44	1	34	0

Receiving

Auburn	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Mario Fannin	3	44	0	14
Rod Smith	2	39	0	27
Robert Dunn	1	10	0	10
Montez Billings	1	9	0	9
Gabe McKenzie	1	6	0	6
Derek Winter	1	5	0	5

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	3	36	0	15
Nikita Stover	1	39	1	39
Marquis Maze	1	34	1	34
Mark Ingram	1	27	0	27
Darius Hanks	1	17	0	17
Brad Smelley	1	10	0	10
Travis McCall	1	9	0	9
Nick Walker	1	6	0	6

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ALABAMA VS. FLORIDA

12.6.08 / 20-31 / Georgia Dome / SEC Championship Game / 75,892

Alabama's storybook run through the 2008 football season came to an unhappy ending in the fourth quarter of the SEC Championship Game in Atlanta's Georgia Dome.

After 45 minutes of slugging it out like two heavyweight boxers, Florida finally delivered the knockout blow. Tim Tebow, the defending Heisman Trophy winner, led the Gators to two fourth quarter touchdowns and a 31-20 victory over Alabama.

The win gave Florida and Alabama identical 12-1 records for the season, but it gave the Gators the SEC championship and put them in the BCS National Championship Game against Oklahoma. Alabama's consolation prize for being the SEC West champion is a trip to New Orleans and a Sugar Bowl date with Utah, one of only two undefeated teams left in major college football.

Alabama came into the game a 10-point underdog despite being 12-0 and ranked No. 1 in the *Associated Press* poll and the BCS rankings. But Alabama hung with the high scoring Gators and held a 20-17 lead going into the fourth quarter. But the fourth quarter was Tebow time, and the best player in college football delivered.

Tebow led Florida on a 62-yard, 11-play drive that started on the final play of the third quarter and ended with 9:21 left in the game when Jeffrey Demps scored on a 1-yard run to give Florida a 20-17 lead. The drive was helped along by a facemask penalty on Dont'a Hightower that gave Florida a first down at the Alabama 27 instead of a 4th-and-1 at the Tide 43.

The next three plays were the key to the game.

Javier Arenas gave Alabama great field position with a 41-yard kickoff return. Starting 59 yards from the Florida goal, Alabama left its game plan and tried to play Florida's game. Instead of running straight at the Gators, which the Tide had been successful doing the entire game, Alabama tried to throw the football.

On first down, John Parker Wilson tried to hit Julio Jones deep, but Jones was double covered and the pass was knocked away by Joe Haden of the Gators.

On second down, Glen Coffee gained two yards to set up a third-and-long.

Expecting another pass play, Florida's Jermaine Cunningham blitzed around the right side of the Alabama offensive line and sacked Wilson for an 11-yard loss.

There was still 7:38 left, but Alabama's best chance for a comeback was gone.

"We had a bad series after they scored and went three-and-out, and then they turn around and score again. That was the most critical series for us offensively in the game," Alabama coach Nick Saban said.

Florida covered 65 yards and scored in eight plays following the Alabama punt. Tebow connected on a 34-yard pass to Louis Murphy, and a 15-yard pass to Aaron Hernandez to put Florida at the Alabama 6-yard line. Tebow got the score on a six-yard pass to Riley Cooper to end the scoring for the night.

The Gators dominated Alabama in the fourth quarter, the first time this season a team had been able to do that. Alabama had been the more physical team for three quarters before things went south for the Tide.

"First of all, I'm very proud of what our football team was able to accomplish this year," Saban said. "The only team that plays in a real BCS conference that went 12-0, which is very difficult to do, and I'm very proud of the way our players played, with consistency all year, the way they competed.

"You know, football is a lot like life; you know, you get what you expect, and these guys had a high standard for how they competed and how they played, and they certainly played hard and played with a lot of toughness and tenacity in

KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Running back Glen Coffee was again the workhorse of the Alabama backfield. The 6-1, 198-pound junior running back from Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, gained 112 yards on 21 carries and scored the Tide's first touchdown on an 18-yard run. He also caught one pass for a seven-yard gain.

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYERS

Senior safety Rashad Johnson and sophomore linebacker Rolando McClain both had outstanding games against the Gators. They each had nine tackles, seven solo tackles and two assists, as the Alabama defense held Florida to 31 points and 358 yards of total offense, both well below the Gators season averages.

DEFINING MOMENT

A face mask penalty in the fourth quarter on Alabama was a major turning point. Instead of a fourth down at the Tide 42, Florida got a first down at the 27 and went in to score for a 24-20 lead. After the kickoff, Alabama went three-and-out and the Gators quickly scored again to put the game away.

SCOREBOARD

	1	2	3	4	T
ALABAMA	10	0	10	0	20
FLORIDA	7	10	0	14	31

ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE ROLL TIDE

Photo by: R.D. Moore

this game tonight.

"I'd like to congratulate Florida," Saban continued. "They've got a fine team and played outstanding, and every time that they needed to make a play, Tim Tebow made plays in the game that made a difference."

In particular, Tebow made three long passes that were the difference in the game. He completed a 51yarder to Cooper on the Gators' first touchdown drive, 22 yards to Hernandez on the Gators' second touchdown drive, and, of course, the 34-yarder to Murphy in the final scoring drive. Each time the Florida receiver got behind the defense and each time Tebow put the ball right on his finger tips for the completion and each time it led to a touchdown.

"Because the way we're going to have to play them to stop the run, we're going to be in three-deep zone or cover one a lot, and you've got to keep them cut off, and we can't get the ball thrown over our head," Saban said.

"I think we got the ball thrown over our head three times, which were big plays and they changed field position. I think they scored in every one of those circumstances."

As bad as the three long completions hurt, it was two mistakes in the kicking game that kept putting the Tide into holes they repeatedly had to dig out of to stay in the game.

Leading 10-7 and driving in the second quarter, Alabama drove from its own 29 to the Florida 32-yard line. On 4th-and-9, Alabama lined up for an apparent field goal try with Corey Smith kicking as Leigh Tiffin was on the sideline trying to shake off the effects of a mild concussion suffered earlier on a kickoff.

But instead of Smith trying a 49-yard field goal, the Tide ran a fake punt with P.J. Fitzgerald taking the snap and trying to run around right end. The Gators stopped him after a gain of a yard and Florida took over and drove for a field goal that tied the game 10-10.

On the ensuing kickoff, Javier Arenas fielded that ball at the 4-yard line as he went out of bounds. Instead of letting the ball go and Alabama starting from the 40-yard line, the Tide had to start in the shadow of its own goal line. Three plays and a punt later, Florida had another short field. The Gators drove 57-yards for a touchdown and a 17-10 lead.

"We made two errors on special teams that really changed field position. We had the ball on the 30-yard line or something, and we didn't think this was in the guy's range, but we were going to try to kick a field goal anyway and take the points. But when we called the fake, the fake is based on the look. They weren't in the right look for us to run the fake, so we should have kicked the field goal," Saban said.

"When they scored on that drive, we get the ball on the 40-yard line if we just let the ball go out of bounds. We put ourselves in bad field position and they stop us, we don't change the field position and they get good field position to go down and score again. Those two special team errors in the second quarter I think were critical in the game, as it is in all games."

But still Alabama did dig itself out of those holes and took the lead by dominating the Gators in the third quarter. The Tide held Florida to a

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three-and-out on the first possession of the second half and then strung together a 15-play, 91-yard touchdown drive that culminated with a two-yard touchdown run by Mark Ingram to tie the score at 17-17. The drive ate 6:37 off the clock, which is the best way to keep Tebow in check.

After Florida missed a field goal on its next possession, Alabama put together another drive. This one covered 65 yards on nine plays and took another 3:42 off the clock. It led to a 27-yard field goal by Tiffin and gave Alabama a 20-17 lead at the end of the third period.

But then things got ugly for the Tide in the fourth quarter.

Statistically, Alabama and Florida were pretty even. Florida had one more first down, 19-18, and had 35 more yards of total offense, 358 to 323 yards. Average gain per play was dead even at 5.6 yards per play, but Florida ran six more plays than the Tide. Florida held the ball for 4:08 more than Alabama, and that came because the Gators held the ball for 11:55 in the fourth period.

Coffee was the game's leading rusher with 112 yards on 21 carries while Tebow led Florida in rushing with 57 yards on 17 carries. Tebow was 14-of-22 for 216 yards and three touchdowns while Wilson was 12-of-25 for 187 yards for the Tide. Jones was the leading receiver for Alabama with five catches for 124 yards. Murphy led Florida with four catches for 87 yards.

The Alabama players were disappointed in the loss, but the thing that hurt the most was they felt like they had control of the game and let it slip away.

"Losing when you know you could have won the game is hard," said nose guard Terrence Cody.

"It's just disappointing right now," said center Antoine Caldwell. "This game meant so much."

Caldwell is right, the game meant a lot and Alabama came up just short, but the Crimson Tide coach didn't want to let losing this one game take away from what the team accomplished this season. After a 7-6 record and an Independence Bowl game last season, Alabama is now 12-1 and headed to the Sugar Bowl. That's the message Saban tried to tell his team after the game.

"I pretty much said how proud I am of what they accomplished this year, that every team in the BCS leagues have lost a game this year except them," Saban said. "They accomplished a lot. They played with a lot of consistency. That's a very tough thing to do and I'm very proud of them. I was proud of the way they played in the game today.

"I want our players not to hang their head," Saban said. "They've got a lot to be proud of in terms of what they accomplished."

In only Saban's second season at Alabama, the Crimson Tide became a player on the national stage once again. A perfect 12-0 regular season is something not many college players get to experience. Losing the SEC Championship Game was a disappointment, but winning the SEC West and getting a BCS bowl bid is a major accomplishment. For Alabama fans, losing the SEC Championship Game was a disappointment, but it did little to dampen the enthusiasm for the future.

Under Nick Saban, Alabama is back and will be a player on the national stage for a long time.

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Alabama's Defense

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Javier Arenas

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

08:17 UF - Carl Moore 3 pass from Tim Tebow (J. Phillips kick), 9-59 4:28, UA 0 - UF 7
07:23 UA - Glen Coffee 18 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 2-82 0:54, UA 7 - UF 7
03:28 UA - Leigh Tiffin 30 field goal, 5-12 2:15, UA 10 - UF 7

Second Quarter

08:59 UF - Jonathan Phillips 19 field goal, 8-67 3:51, UA 10 - UF 10
02:59 UF - David Nelson 5 pass from Tim Tebow (J. Phillips kick), 9-57 4:20, UA 10 - UF 17

Third Quarter

06:20 UA - Mark Ingram 2 run (Leigh Tiffin kick), 15-91 6:53, UA 17 - UF 17
00:08 UA - Leigh Tiffin 27 field goal, 10-65 3:40, UA 20 - UF 17

Fourth Quarter

09:21 UF - Jeffrey Demps 1 run (Jonathan Phillips kick), 11-62 5:47, UA 20 - UF 24
02:50 UF - Riley Cooper 5 pass from Tim Tebow (J. Phillips kick), 8-65 4:37, UA 20 - UF 31

Photo by: R.D. Moore

Rashad Johnson & Brandon Fanney

Team Statistics

	UA	UF
FIRST DOWNS	18	19
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	33-136	42-142
PASSING YDS (NET)	187	216
Passes Att-Comp-Int	25-12-1	22-14-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	58-323	64-358
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-20	3-25
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-95	5-121
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	1-24
Punts (Number-Avg)	4-41.0	3-47.7
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	2-31	6-45
Possession Time	27:56	32:04
Third-Down Conversions	5 of 12	7 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 1	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	5-6
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-2	1-11

Individual Statistics

Rushing

Alabama	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Glen Coffee	21	112	0	112	1	18	5.3
Mark Ingram	8	21	0	21	1	9	2.6
John Parker Wilson	3	13	11	2	0	9	0.7
P.J. Fitzgerald	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0

Florida	No	Gain	Loss	Net	TD	Lg	Avg
Tim Tebow	17	62	5	57	0	14	3.4
Jeffrey Demps	14	54	1	53	1	12	3.8
Emmanuel Moody	4	23	0	23	0	10	5.8
Brandon James	3	7	0	7	0	4	2.3
Louis Murphy	1	4	0	4	0	4	4.0
Chris Rainey	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0

Passing

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
John Parker Wilson	25-12-1	187	0	64	1

Alabama	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD	Long	Sack
Tim Tebow	22-14-0	216	3	51	1

Receiving

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Julio Jones	5	124	0	64
Nick Walker	3	37	0	17
Darius Hanks	3	19	0	10
Glen Coffee	1	7	0	7

Alabama	No.	Yds	TD	Long
Louis Murphy	4	86	0	34
Aaron Hernandez	3	43	0	22
Davis Nelson	3	27	1	13
Riley Cooper	2	56	1	51
Carl Moore	1	3	1	3
Kestahn Moore	1	1	0	1

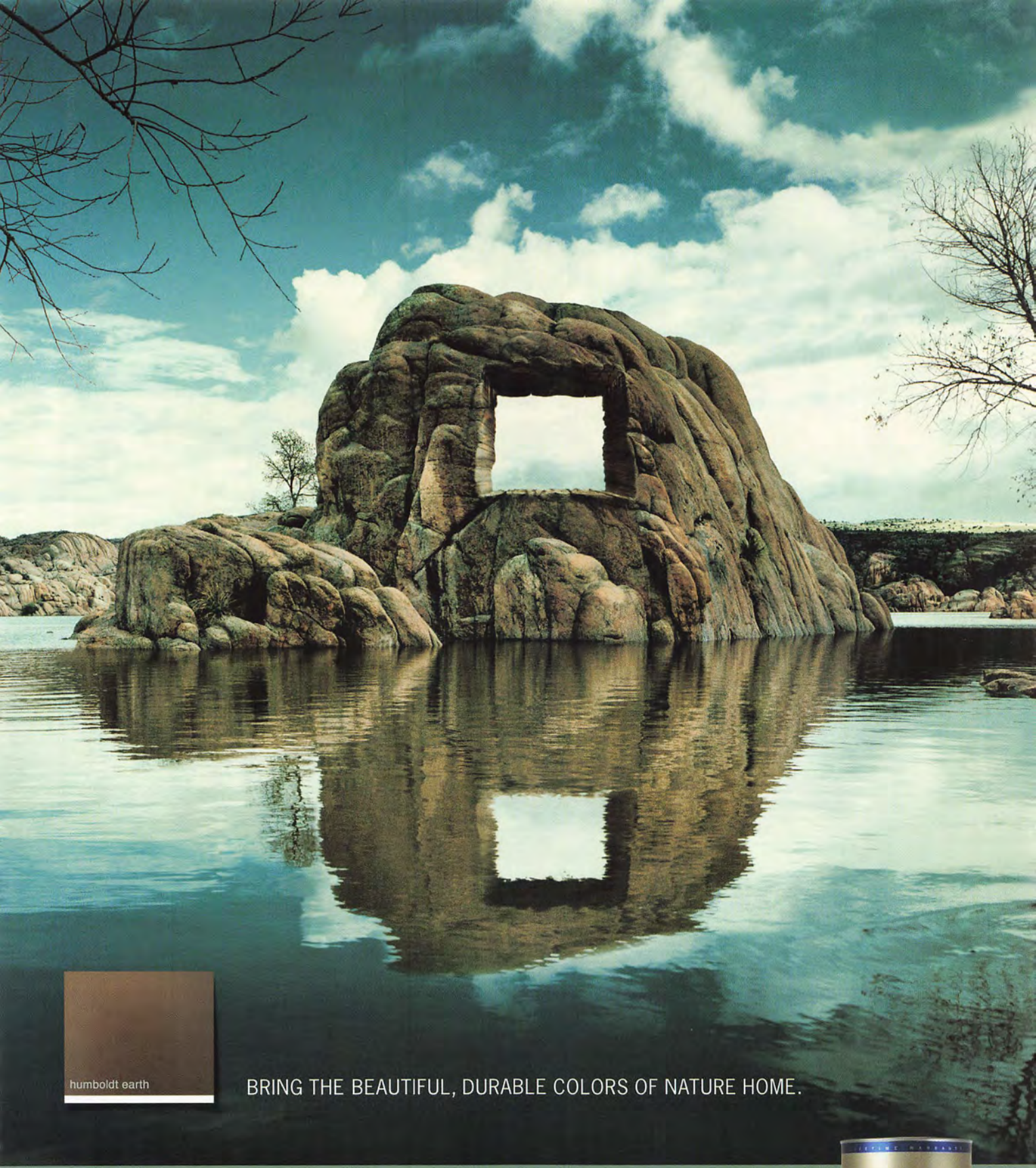

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Photo Courtesy of Bryant Museum

ALABAMA
Football History

By Ben Cook

Few teams in college football have as much tradition in its history as that of the University of Alabama. It's one of the magical names in sports like the Boston Celtics, New York Yankees, and Green Bay Packers.

It didn't start out that way. Alabama's first team in 1892 went a modest 2-2, followed by an 0-4 mark the next season. It wasn't until Nov. 4, 1905 when Alabama defeated Georgia 36-0 in a game played in Birmingham that the Crimson Tide's overall record climbed above .500 at 32-31-2.

That was 767 wins ago and Alabama would never again fall below .500.

Alabama first became a player on the national scene in 1922 when coach Xen Scott took his 2-2-1 Alabama team north to play Pennsylvania. The football power nationally was concentrated in the Northeast and nobody gave the unknown team from the South much of a chance.

Noted sportswriter Grantland Rice wrote of the Alabama-Penn and the Princeton-Swarthmore games: "Pennsylvania and Princeton, after their impressive achievements of a week ago, get a breathing spell, although Swarthmore is never to be taken lightly."

But Alabama knocked off the highly favored Penn squad 9-7, putting Alabama football on the map. The victory struck a blow for Southern football and started cracking the reputation of Eastern football

supremacy.

Scott resigned after the 1922 season because of poor health and a Vanderbilt assistant named Wallace Wade was named coach. It was Wade who would lead Alabama to its second big national victory, and this one came on college football's biggest stage.

The 1925 Alabama team had a perfect 9-0 record and outscored its opponents 277-7 with only Birmingham-Southern scoring a touchdown on the Crimson Tide. Although most figured the Crimson Tide's season was over, Alabama was crowned the champions of the Southern Conference and received an invitation to meet the powerful Washington Huskies team in the Rose Bowl, the first Southern team invited to Pasadena to play in the game that most counted as a national championship game.

Alabama was not given a chance, but the team made up of stars like Johnny Mack Brown, Pooley Hubert, Grant Gillis, Dave Rosenfeld and Harry Holder were determined to strike a blow for Southern football. Alabama scored 20 points in a seven-minute span and the Crimson Tide won the Rose Bowl, 20-19. Brown was named the game's most outstanding player.

Photo Courtesy of Bryant Museum

Wallace Wade

With the victory, Alabama claimed its first national championship. Alabama football was officially a national power. The Crimson Tide has been a player on the national stage ever since.

Alabama returned to the Rose Bowl the following season to face the powerful Stanford Indians. Stanford led 7-0 with less than four minutes remaining when Babe Pearce blocked a Stanford punt giving Alabama one last chance from the Stanford 14-yard line. Jimmy Johnson's one-yard touchdown run cut the margin to 7-6. As Herschel Caldwell lined up for the tying extra-point attempt and Stanford prepared to go for the block, Emile Barnes started calling the signals.

Right in the middle of calling the signals, Barnes suddenly shouted, "Signals off!" When he did, the Stanford players relaxed and Gordon Holmes snapped the ball to Wu Winslett who put it down and with no rush in his face, Caldwell kicked the point to tie the game. The score ended 7-7 and the Helms Foundation named Alabama the national champion for the second consecutive year.

The Crimson Tide had decent teams, but not great ones, for the next three years and there was grumbling around Tuscaloosa. Wade heard the discontent and in the spring of 1930 when Duke University called Wade to ask for a recommendation for its next coach, Wade recommended himself. On April 1, 1930, it was announced that Wade would resign at the conclusion of the 1930 season and become the coach of the Blue Devils.

"Wade called us together before the 1930 season," said fullback John Henry "Flash" Suther. "He told us his contract was up and that he was going to resign at the end of the season. He said he wanted to win one more championship. We all admired and respected the man, so we just decided we were going to win it for him. We won ten games including the Rose Bowl and we were only scored on twice."

The 1930 team was 9-0 and outscored its opponents 247-13. Against Washington State in the Rose Bowl, Wade held the first team out of the game until there were seven minutes left in the first half. When Wade finally sent the first team in, they were ready to play. They scored 21 points in the final seven minutes of the half on the way to a 24-0 victory over the Cougars.

The Wade era ended that day after going 61-13-3 and winning two national championships. It was a great era, but Alabama had to move forward. It did so by hiring Frank Thomas, a former player at Notre Dame who had once roomed with the immortal George Gipp. When he was hired, Alabama president Dr. Mike Denny told Thomas that he believed material was 90 percent of a football team and coaching was 10 percent. He promised Thomas he would provide him with the 90 percent and he would be held accountable for the 10 percent.

Thomas took it to heart. Between 1931-46, Thomas won 115 games, lost 24 and tied seven and won national championships in 1934 and 1941. He won two

Photo Courtesy of Bryant Museum

Frank Thomas

Rose Bowl games, a Cotton Bowl and an Orange Bowl. He coached such legendary players as Don Hutson, Vaughn Mancha, Harry Gilmer, Johnny Cain, Riley Smith and a young end by the name of Paul "Bear" Bryant.

As the 1946 season wound down, it was obvious that Thomas was sick. When not on the football field, Thomas was usually confined to bed with high blood pressure. He resigned after the season and Red Drew was named the coach. The next 11 years under Drew and his successor J.B. "Ears" Whitworth were not up to the Alabama standards. Drew went 54-28-7 in eight seasons, but won no national or conference championships.

During Drew's tenure, however, one play stands out as one of the strangest in college football history. Drew's 1953 team was invited to play Rice in the 1954 Cotton Bowl. The Owls were led by halfback Dickie Moegle.

With Rice leading 7-6 in the second quarter, Moegle broke free down the right sideline with Bill Oliver and Vince DeLaurentis chasing him. Sitting on the Alabama bench, Tommy Lewis leaped up and tackled a shocked Moegle. Lewis then ran back to the bench and draped a towel over his head. The officials awarded Moegle a touchdown and Rice went on to win 28-6.

"I'm too emotional," Lewis said after the game. "I kept telling myself 'I didn't do it. I didn't do it.' But I knew I did. I guess I'm just too full of Alabama."

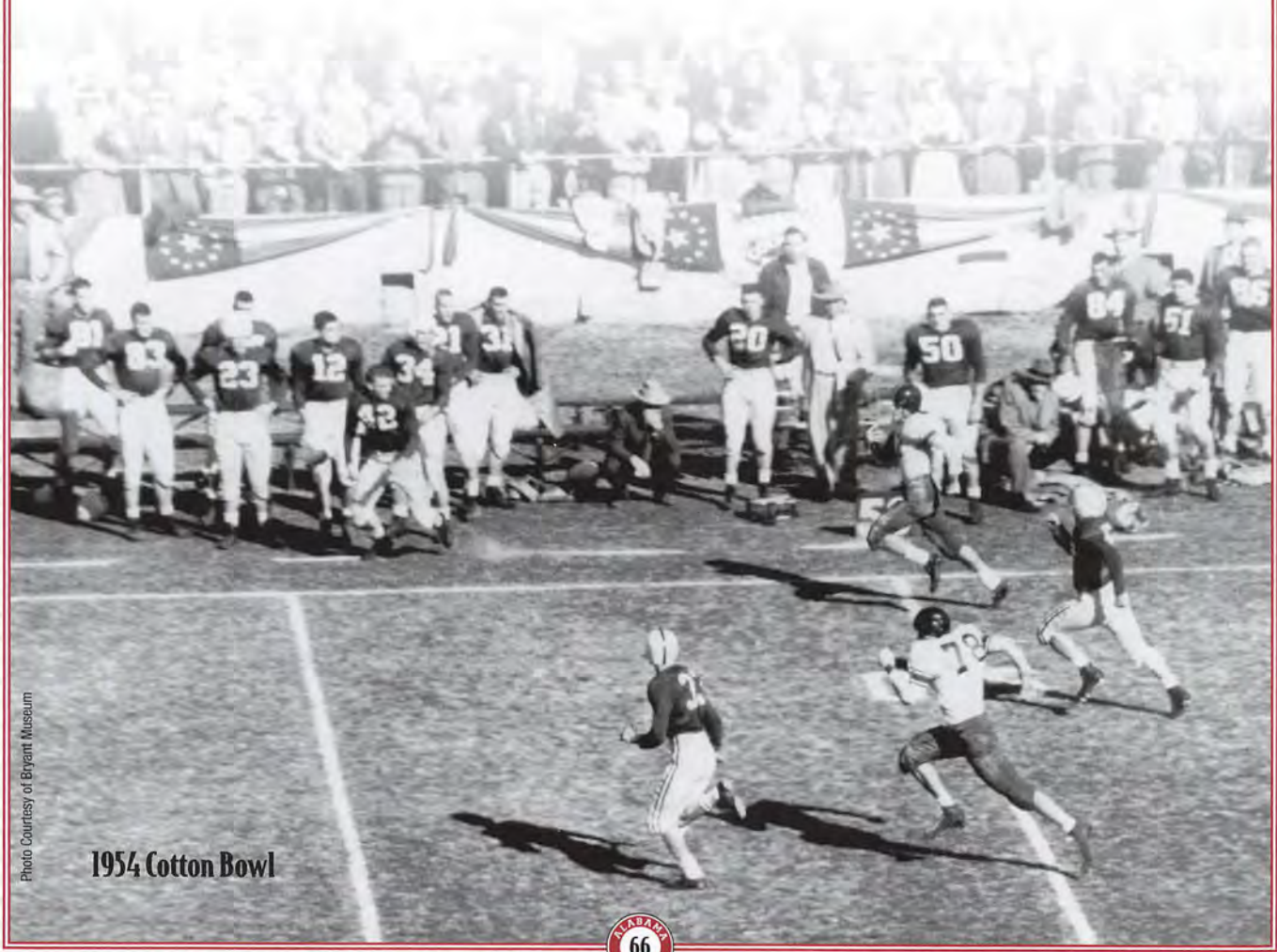
An editorial in the *Dallas Morning News* said, "Texans know competitive spirit. We thrive on it. It might not be a bad idea to drop Tommy a line over at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and let him know he hasn't lost his last friend. He's quite a fighter—and we like them that way in Texas."

Whitworth succeeded Drew in 1955. Whitworth had played at Alabama under Wade and Thomas, but under Whitworth, Alabama plunged into its worst era as his three teams went 4-24-4.

To turn things around, Alabama turned to one of its own—Paul "Bear" Bryant, who was coaching at Texas A&M. On December 3, 1957, Bryant told a group of sportswriters gathered in the Shamrock Hotel in Houston, Texas, "This is the most difficult thing I ever had to do. You can't stay at Texas A&M as long as we did without learning to love it, the traditions, the boys, everything.

"The reason, the only reason I'm going back home is because my school called me."

Bryant would coach the Crimson Tide for 25 seasons and win 232 games, lose 46 and tie nine. They won national championships in 1961, 1964, 1965, 1973, 1978 and



1954 Cotton Bowl

Photo Courtesy of Bryant Museum

Photo by: R.D. Moore

1979. Bryant's Crimson Tide teams won 13 SEC championships and produced 46 All-Americans, including stars such as Joe Namath, Ken Stabler, Johnny Musso, Lee Roy Jordan, Pat Trammell, Billy Neighbors, Ozzie Newsome and John Hannah.

In the decade of the 1970s alone, Alabama won an astounding 103 games after Bryant made a surprising move following a two-year slump in 1969-70 when Alabama slumped to 12-10-1 and there were whispers that perhaps the game had passed him by. Alabama was scheduled to open the 1971 season on the West coast against Southern Cal and Bryant's old friend, John McKay.

Prior to making the trip, Bryant installed the wishbone offense under a cloak of secrecy, a move that caught USC completely off guard and the Tide upset the Trojans 17-10 on the way to an undefeated regular season. During the '70s, Alabama's wishbone offense was virtually unstoppable. Bryant even incorporated a passing game into the ground-oriented offense and made stars of quarterbacks like Richard Todd, Gary and Jeff Rutledge and Steadman Shealy.

Bryant retired after the 1982 season and died the following January. Alabama football struggled after Bryant. Ray Perkins and Bill Curry followed Bryant with Perkins posting a 32-15-1 record and Curry logging a 26-10-0 record. Curry won one SEC title. Gene Stallings, a former Bryant player and coach, took over in 1990 and compiled a 62-25-0 record in seven seasons. Stallings won the SEC and national championship in 1992.

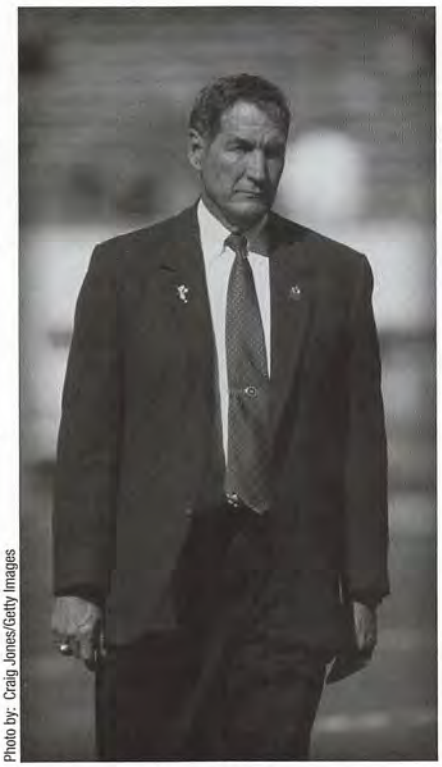


Photo by: Craig Jones/Getty Images

Gene Stallings

During the Stallings years, however, Alabama ran into NCAA trouble that would be a black cloud hanging over the program for more than a decade. Mike DuBose replaced Stallings in 1997 and lasted four years and won one conference crown, but Alabama football slipped into mediocrity under a succession of coaches—Dennis Franchione, Mike Price (who was fired before ever coaching a game) and Mike Shula. Under DuBose, Franchione and Shula, Alabama won 67 and lost 54 and slipped off the national radar.

After Shula was fired following the 2006 season, athletic director Mal Moore made the best hire at the Capstone since Paul Bryant was brought home when he hired Nick Saban. Saban's first team went 7-6, but his second team ran the table in the regular season before losing to Florida in the SEC Championship Game, which put the Crimson Tide in the Sugar Bowl.

More importantly, Saban returned the Alabama program to the respect it enjoyed during the Bryant, Wade and Thomas years.

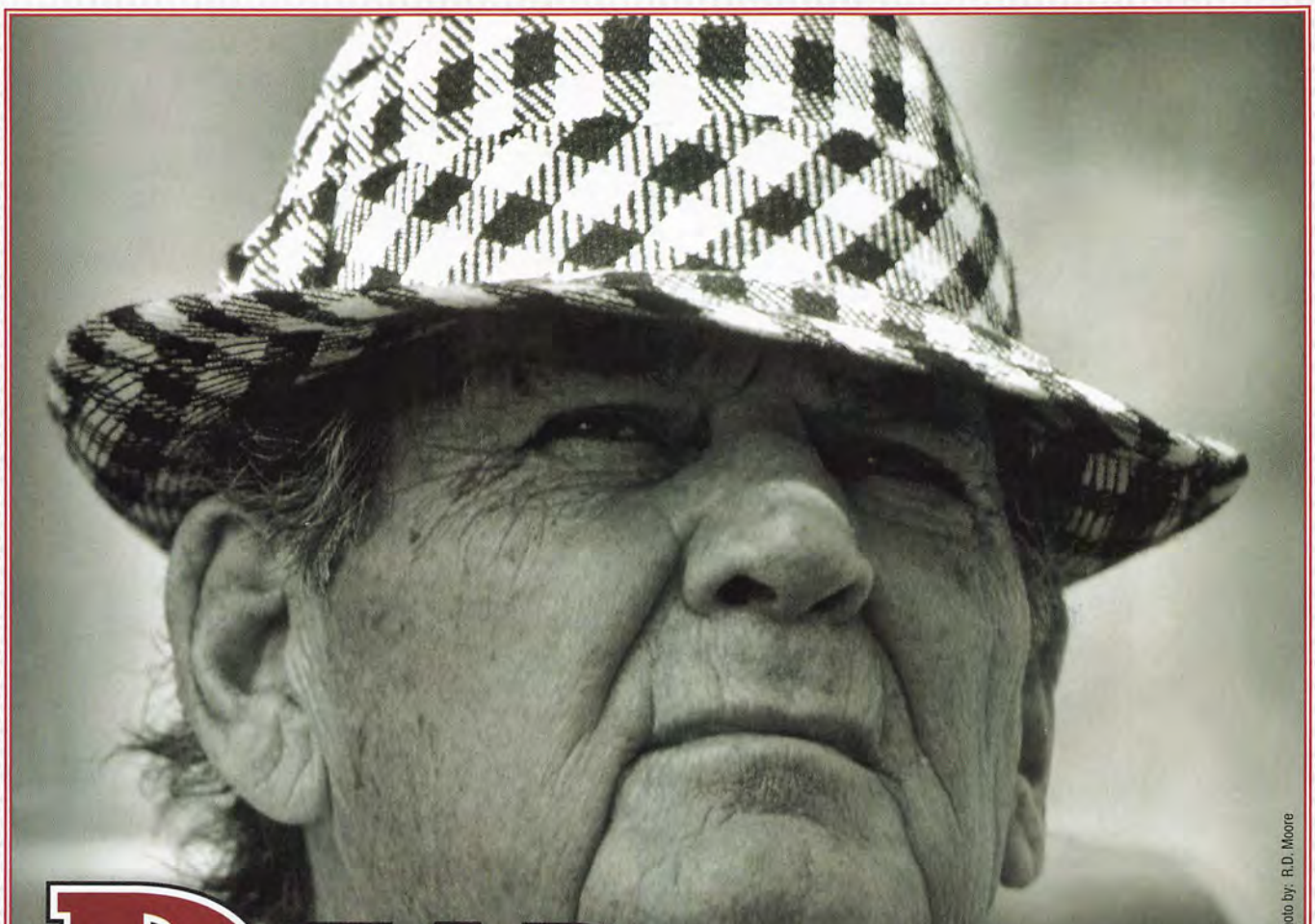


Photo by: R.D. Moore

Bear Bryant One of a Kind

By Ben Cook

Bear Bryant's legacy defines Alabama football

The woman was in her late 40s or early 50s and she was dressed entirely in blue and white with Penn State buttons pinned to her clothes. It was November of 1981 at State College, Pennsylvania where Alabama had just beaten Penn State, 31-16. It was the 314th win of Paul "Bear" Bryant's brilliant coaching career tying him with Amos Alonzo Stagg as college football's winningest coach.

But the woman, obviously a Penn State fan, didn't have the Nittany Lions' loss on her mind. Instead, she was excitedly running through a crowd of people gathered under the stands outside the locker rooms.

"I touched him," she squealed. "He walked right by me and I touched him."

She was talking about Bear Bryant. That's the affect he had on people whether he was walking into a room full of boosters or he was in a stadium of an opposing team or even on the practice field. In fact, that might have been the place where he inspired the most fear, not just in his players, but also in his assistant coaches.

When Bryant was on his tower overlooking the Alabama practice fields, players and coaches would keep an eye on him, at least when they could with glances out of the corner of their eyes. Nobody would look at him directly.

Jimmy Sharpe, a former player under Bryant who became an assistant coach after he graduated, was working his position players during a 1966 practice when Bryant started down the ladder from his tower. Sharpe noticed.

"Is he coming this way?" he said under his breath to a reporter standing nearby. "Oh God, please tell me he's not coming this way."

That's the way all the coaches felt. If Bryant was coming their way, they knew something was wrong with their drill and they would hear about it. Not on the practice field, but later in private. But by the time Bryant reached the bottom of the tower, every drill on the practice field had intensified. Players practiced harder and coaches coached harder.

Bryant was not above getting in a drill with his players and showing them how he wanted things done and he was tough enough to hold his own with players 40 years his junior.

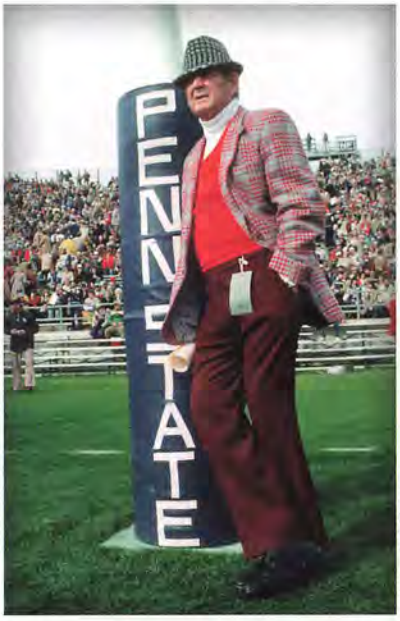


Photo by: R.D. Moore

When Bryant arrived at Alabama in 1958, the Crimson Tide had won a total of four football games in the previous three years under J.B. "Ears" Whitworth. But Bryant changed the losing culture at Alabama immediately. In the spring of 1958, Bryant put the Tide through the hardest spring practice any of the players had ever seen. Once spring practice ended, Bryant let his players know he expected them to keep working over the summer.

Tackle Fred Sington Jr. played the 1957 season at 233 pounds. When he reported for fall practice, he weighed 215. A reporter asked him what Bryant did to impress on him that he needed to lose weight.

"He just said come back at 215 or I wouldn't get a uniform," Sington said. "I don't know if that impresses you or not, but it did me."

Early in the fall of 1958, Bryant met with his freshman class.

"What are you doing here?" he asked them. "If you're not here to win the national championship, you are in the wrong place."

Later, Bryant remembered that meeting.

"They believed me," Bryant said. "When I walked out, I knew we were going to win the national championship with that group. They had a goal."

He was right; that freshman class were the leaders of the 1961 Alabama team that won Bryant's first national championship. Bryant would lead Alabama to back-to-back national titles in 1964 and 1965, achieving a god-like stature among Alabama fans and he inspired awe among the opponents that he constantly beat.

Before his Alabama team met LSU in Baton Rouge's famous Tiger Stadium in 1977, Bryant and his team went out on the field for a pregame walk. As they strolled across the field, the students in the stands booed him loudly. But Bryant didn't notice. Instead, he spotted a child in a wheelchair on the LSU sideline. Bryant had a soft spot in his heart for children, especially a handicapped child. So he walked over to the child and bent down to shake the kid's hand.

In the Tiger Stadium press box, longtime LSU Sports Information Director Paul Manasseh gasped and said, "My God. Look, now he's healing the sick!"

Such was the Bryant legend. His tenure was not without controversy. The *Saturday Evening Post* targeted Bryant with two stories in 1963 that charged he taught dirty football in one and the other accused Bryant and Georgia coach Wally Butts of conspiring to fix the outcome of the 1962 Georgia-Alabama game.

Bryant came out swinging and sued the Curtis Publishing Company for $10,500,000. Bryant and Butts were vindicated on Feb. 3, 1964 when Curtis Publishing Company settled out of court with Butts for $460,000 and Bryant for $300,000 and Curtis paid the taxes. It was the beginning of the end for Curtis Publishing, which later went out of business.

Bryant would win three more national championships at Alabama in 1973, 1978 and 1979. In all, he won 13 SEC titles and in the 1970s when some thought the game was passing him by, Bryant switched to the wishbone, integrated the passing game into the offense and promptly won 103 games in the decade.

Bryant's final game was the 1982 Liberty Bowl when Alabama beat Illinois 21-15 to present Bryant with one last victory. He passed away 28 days later on January 25, 1983.

Years earlier, Benny Marshall, sports editor of *The Birmingham News*, asked Bryant how long he expected to continue to coach.

"Why, I hope it lasts forever," Bryant said.

It didn't, but his legacy did.

Wade and Thomas laid the foundation for Alabama greatness

Photo Courtesy of Bryant Museum

Before Bear Bryant became the coach all Alabama football coaches would be measured against, coaches Wallace Wade and Frank Thomas took Alabama to great heights and national respect.

Wade played his college football at Brown and played in the second Rose Bowl game. He took over at Alabama in 1923 when the Tide was still celebrating their first win on the national stage, a 9-7 win over Penn under Xen Scott in 1922. Wade coached through the 1930 season and won three national championships. He won two Rose Bowls and tied another. His record at Alabama was 61-13-3 and he is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

Frank Thomas, who had been George Gipp's roommate as a player at Notre Dame, took over in 1930 when Wade left to go to Duke. Thomas junked the single-wing offense that Wade had used and installed the Notre Dame formations he was familiar with from his playing days. The Southeastern Conference was formed in 1933 and Thomas' Crimson Tide won the first SEC championship. It would be the first of many. Thomas won two national championships, 1934 and 1941, and four SEC titles. High blood pressure, the disease that would later take his life, forced Thomas to retire after the 1946 season with a 115-24-7 record. He was elected to the Football Hall of Fame in 1951.

2008 ASSISTANT COACHES

BURTON BURNS

Associate Head Coach/Running Backs

Burton Burns is in his second season with the Crimson Tide football program as associate head coach and running backs coach. A native of New Orleans, La., Burns spent eight seasons at Clemson after a four-year stint at Tulane. A player at Nebraska where he played in three bowl games, he has coached high school football and at Southern University in Baton Rouge.

CURT CIGNETTI

Receivers/Recruiting Coordinator

Curt Cignetti joined the Crimson Tide football coaching staff as receivers coach and recruiting coordinator. The recently completed 2008 signing class earned a national ranking of number one. Cignetti spent the previous seven seasons as tight ends coach, recruiting coordinator and quarterbacks coach at North Carolina State. Prior to working with the Wolfpack, Cignetti spent six seasons on the staff at the University of Pittsburgh.

BO DAVIS

Defensive Line

Bo Davis is in his second season with the Crimson Tide football staff as defensive line coach. Davis came to Alabama after serving as an assistant strength and conditioning coach and assistant defensive line coach with the Miami Dolphins under Nick Saban. Davis spent four years as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at LSU under Saban and current Tigers' head coach Les Miles.

JIM McELWAIN

Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks

Jim McElwain is the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for the Crimson Tide after serving in the same role at Fresno State. He spent 2006 as quarterbacks coach for the Oakland Raiders. McElwain was the assistant head coach, receivers coach and special teams coach at Michigan State. Prior to his stint with the Spartans, McElwain spent three seasons at Louisville as receivers and special teams coach.

JOE PENDRY

Assistant Head Coach-Offense/Offensive Line

Joe Pendry is in his second year at Alabama serving as assistant head coach for offense and offensive line coach. Pendry has worked with six different NFL clubs, including the Houston Texans, Carolina Panthers, Buffalo Bills and Kansas City Chiefs. He also coached at Kansas State, Pittsburgh and Michigan State before moving to the professional ranks where he was with the USFL's Philadelphia Stars.

KIRBY SMART

Defensive Coordinator

Kirby Smart is entering his second season with the Alabama football staff as secondary coach and first season as defensive coordinator. A former defensive back at Georgia, Smart joined Alabama in 2007 after spending 2006 as safeties coach with Nick Saban and the NFL's Miami Dolphins. Prior to his stint with the Dolphins, Smart spent six years with Georgia, LSU, Florida State and Valdosta State.

2008 ASSISTANT COACHES

KEVIN STEELE

Associate Head Coach/Head Defensive Coach

Kevin Steele is in his second season with the Crimson Tide as head defensive coach. Steele came to Alabama after spending four seasons as linebackers coach and executive head coach at Florida State. Steele was the head coach at Baylor from 1999-2002 before moving to FSU. He has also coached at Nebraska, Tennessee, Oklahoma State, New Mexico State and with the Carolina Panthers In the NFL.

LANCE THOMPSON

Outside Linebackers

Outside linebackers coach Lance Thompson begins his second year on Nick Saban's staff. Thompson previously served as the Alabama's defensive line coach in 1999-2000 when the Crimson Tide won the 1999 SEC Championship and earned a BCS Bowl berth (2000 Orange Bowl). He spent the three previous years as defensive coordinator at Central Florida. Thompson also coached for four seasons at Georgia Tech.

BOBBY WILLIAMS

Tight Ends/Special Teams

Bobby Williams is in his first season as Alabama's tight ends coach and special teams coordinator. A veteran coach with both college and NFL experience, Williams joins Nick Saban's coaching staff for the fourth time in his career as they have worked together previously at Michigan State, LSU and the Miami Dolphins. Williams followed Saban as head coach at Michigan State, and served from 2000-02.

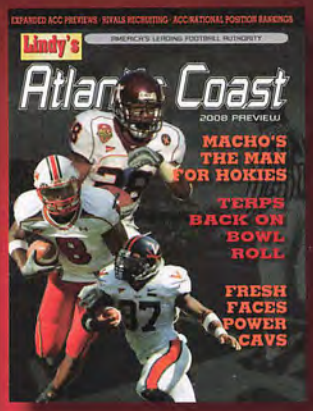
SCOTT COCHRAN

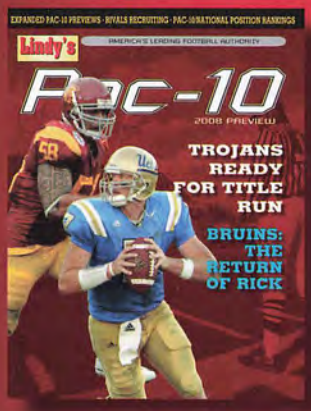
Head Strength and Conditioning Coach

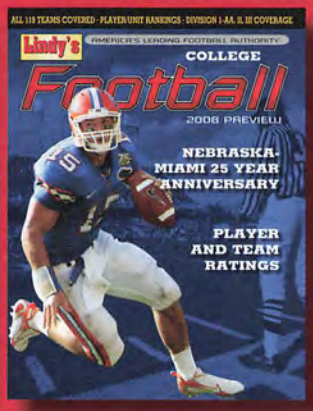
Scott Cochran is the head football strength and conditioning coach. He came to Alabama after three seasons with the New Orleans Hornets as an assistant strength coach. Prior to that, Cochran worked for LSU as an assistant strength coach on the 2003 national champion Tiger football team. Cochran started his career in the strength and conditioning field at University Laboratory High School in Baton Rouge.

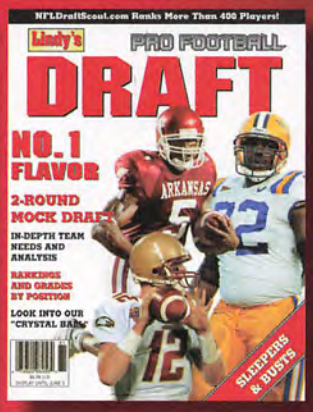
Additional Crimson Tide Staff

Tim Davis	Director of Player Personnel
Mike Vollmar	Associate Athletics Director for Football
Terry Jones	Assistant Head Strength Coach
Jeff Allen	Head Athletic Trainer
Tank Conerly	Athletic Equipment Director
Jeremy Pruitt	Director of Player Development
Willie Carl Martin	Director of Player Development
Rodney Brown	Director of Rehab Services
Cedric Burns	Coordinator of Athletic Relations
Gary Cramer	Director of FCA
Glenda Edwards	Administrative Assistant to Head Coach
Troy Finney	Assistant Director Video Services
Ginger Gilmore	Assistant Athletic Trainer
Jeremy Gsell	Assistant Athletic Trainer
Jacob Guess	Academic Program Advisor
Bonnie Hawthorne	Executive Assistant to Head Coach
Jeremy Jordan	Assistant Equipment Manager
Ashleigh Kimble	Assistant Director of Player Personnel
Bill McDonald	Director of Sports Medicine
Buddy Overstreet	Creative Media Specialist
Jeff Purinton	Associate AD for Football Media Relations
Don Rawson	Director of Video Services
Rachael Smallwood	Recruiting Operations Coordinator
Patrick Suddes	Associate Director of Football Operations
C.C. Thompson	Special Assistant to Head Coach/ Football Operations Coordinator
Lance Walker	Academic Program Advisor









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SIGNATURE

BRYANT-DENNY Stadium

Stroll across the crowded Quad on a crisp Saturday morning. Everything is there. Crimson and white pop-up tents and canvas fold-up chairs. Tables stacked and packed with food, the smell of burgers on the grill. Children wearing houndstooth hats and speakers blaring "Sweet Home Alabama."

It's football gameday in Tuscaloosa.

Now, go back a century to the Quad … to 1908.

It's still a football morning, but the sounds are different. The popping of leather helmets. Cheers from the small crowd when Alabama scores a touchdown.

The Quad was where they played the games back then. In fact, it was the site of Alabama's first playing field.

The Crimson Tide played there from 1893 when the program started through the 1914 season. Beginning in 1915, the team played at University Field, which was renamed Denny Field in 1920, after the former university president George Hutchenson Denny.

In 1929, Alabama moved its games two blocks west to Denny Stadium. The first game, played on September 28, was a 22-7 win over the University of Mississippi Rebels. A capacity crowd of 12,000 saw the contest.

The first stadium expansion was in 1937 when 6,000 seats were added on the east side. Thirteen years later, seating was increased to 25,000. Then in 1961, the year Alabama won its first national championship under head coach Paul Bryant, the grandstands were expanded to include 61 rows, raising seating to 43,000. Capacity grew to 60,000 in 1966, a year after the Tide's third national title of the decade.

In 1975, the stadium's name was changed to Bryant-Denny Stadium in honor of the team's coach, a recognition bestowed by the Alabama legislature. This was one of the first stadiums to be named after an active head coach.

Despite stadium expansion, most of Alabama's games against major opponents for several decades were played at Legion Field in Birmingham. Then, in 1987, a west side upper deck was added at Bryant-Denny to bring capacity to 70,123. All home games during that year of construction were played in Birmingham. A decade later, seating grew to 83,818 when an upper deck was added to the west side. Tuscaloosa would be the permanent home for all future Crimson Tide home games.

Alabama opened the 2006 season with a 25-17 win over Hawaii, a game played before 92,138 including fans in the new north end zone. The increased seating gave Bryant-Denny the seventh largest seating capacity among college stadiums.

Today, the stadium features 123 skyboxes located in three levels of the facility, two large video screens, wrap-around display boards and an expanded exterior featuring the Walk of Champions.

Through the years, Bryant-Denny Stadium has been more than just an important Alabama tradition. It has given the Crimson Tide an overwhelming home field advantage, as the team has won about 85 percent of games played there.

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88

2008 CRIMSON TIDE ROSTER

NO	NAME	POS	CL	HT/WT	Hometown
82	Earl Alexander	WR	SO.	6-4/216	Phenix City
32	Eryk Anders	LB	JR.	6-2/227	San Antonio, TX
28	Javier Arenas	DB	JR.	5-9/198	Tampa, FL
4	Mark Barron	DB	FR.	6-2/215	Mobile
94	Undra Billingsley	DL	FR.	6-3/275	Birmingham
67	John Michael Boswell	OL	FR.	6-5/300	Northport
87	Drew Bullard	LB	FR.	6-3/240	Florence
59	Antoine Caldwell	OL	SR.	6-3/305	Montgomery
70	Evan Cardwell	OL	JR.	6-2/279	Killen
99	Josh Chapman	DL	SO.	6-1/303	Hoover
62	Terrence Cody	DL	JR.	6-5/365	Ft. Myers, FL
38	Glen Coffee	RB	JR.	6-1/198	Ft. Walton Beach, FL
57	Marcell Dareus	DL	FR.	6-3/280	Huffman
16	Thomas Darrah	QB	FR.	6-6/212	Newnan, GA
79	Drew Davis	OL	JR.	6-7/300	Evergreen
96	Luther Davis	DL	SO.	6-3/299	West Monroe, LA
76	Marlon Davis	OL	SR.	6-2/300	Columbus, GA
95	Brandon Deaderick	DL	JR.	6-4/287	Elizabethtown, KY
60	Scott Deaton	OL	JR.	6-6/275	Birmingham
51	Michael DeJohn	LB	FR.	6-0/220	Hoover
85	Preston Dial	TE	SO.	6-3/245	Mobile
13	Robert Ezell	QB	FR.	5-10/170	Athens
98	Brandon Fanney	LB/OL	JR.	6-4/257	Morristown, TN
97	P.J. Fitzgerald	P	JR.	5-11/198	Coral Springs, FL
58	Nick Gentry	DL	SO.	6-1/254	Prattville
11	Brandon Gibson	WR	FR.	6-1/196	Mobile
6	Demetrius Goode	RB	FR.	5-10/190	LaGrange, GA
29	Terry Grant	RB	SO.	5-10/190	Lumberton, MS
33	Hampton Gray	DB	SO.	6-1/194	Tuscaloosa
23	Robby Green	DB	FR.	6-0/180	New Orleans, LA
93	Bobby Greenwood	DL	SR.	6-5/278	Prattville
34	Jeramie Griffin	RB	FR.	6-2/228	Batesville, MS
21	Prince Hall	LB	JR.	5-11/235	Moreno Valley, CA
53	Daren Hallman	ST	FR.	6-3/230	Lynn Haven, FL
15	Darius Hanks	WR	SO.	6-0/172	Norcross, GA
54	Glenn Harbin	DL	FR.	6-6/245	Mobile
5	Jerrell Harris	LB	FR.	6-3/215	Gadsden
42	Jennings Hester	LB	FR.	6-3/219	Atlanta, GA
45	Charlie Higgenbotham	LB	SO.	6-0/218	Birmingham
30	Dont'a Hightower	LB	FR.	6-4/250	Lewisburg, TN
40	Baron Huber	RB	JR.	6-3/249	Knoxville, TN
22	Mark Ingram	RB	FR.	5-10/215	Flint, MI
19	Chris Jackson	WR	FR.	6-1/190	McDonough, GA
3	Kareem Jackson	CB	SO.	5-11/192	Macon, GA
2	Star Jackson	QB	FR.	6-3/195	Lake Worth, FL
24	Marquis Johnson	DB	JR.	5-11/192	Sarasota, FL
78	Mike Johnson	OL	JR.	6-6/299	Pensacola, FL
49	Rashad Johnson	DB	SR.	6-0/186	Sulligent
75	Barrett Jones	OL	FR.	6-5/280	Memphis, TN
8	Julio Jones	WR	FR.	6-4/210	Foley
36	Chris Jordan	LB	FR.	6-2/220	Brentwood, TN

NO	NAME	POS	CL	HT/WT	Hometown
20	Tyrone King	DB	JR.	5-11/198	Birmingham
35	Charlie Kirschman	LB	SO.	6-3/230	St. Augustine, FL
15	Alonzo Lawrence	DB	FR.	6-1/190	Lucedale, MS
56	Calvin Lee	LB	FR.	6-2/215	Chapin, SC
37	Robert Lester	DB	FR.	6-2/210	Foley
72	Tyler Love	OL	FR.	6-7/290	Mountain Brook
31	Ivan Matchett	RB	FR.	5-10/215	Mobile
4	Marquis Maze	WR	FR.	5-9/171	Tarrant
83	Travis McCall	TE	SR.	6-2/260	Prattville
25	Rolando McClain	LB	SO.	6-4/249	Decatur
80	Mike McCoy	WR	JR.	6-2/195	Rankin, MS
52	Alfred McCullough	DL	SO.	6-2/292	Athens
12	Greg McElroy	QB	SO.	6-2/220	Southlake, TX
66	Brian Motley	OL	SO.	6-2/289	Autaugaville
46	Wesley Neighbors	DB	FR.	6-1/210	Huntsville
7	Will Oakley	WR	SR.	6-1/196	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
10	Morgan Ogilvie	QB	FR.	6-0/185	Mountain Brook
84	Colin Peek	TE	JR.	6-6/247	Jacksonville, FL
39	Kyle Pennington	WR	FR.	5-11/177	Chatom
68	Taylor Pharr	OL	SO.	6-6/285	Irondale
13	Cory Reamer	LB	JR.	6-4/218	Hoover
8	Chris Rogers	DB	JR.	6-0/195	Lakeland, FL
74	David Ross	OL	SO.	6-3/295	Homewood
1	B.J. Scott	WR	FR.	5-11/188	Prichard
86	Chris Scott	WR	SO.	5-11/175	Birmingham
50	Brian Selman	SN	JR.	6-0/211	Vestavia Hills
26	Ali Sharrief	DB	JR.	5-9/205	Stevenson
48	Travis Sikes	WR	SO.	6-2/188	Nashville, TN
17	Brad Smelley	TE	FR.	6-3/218	Tuscaloosa
71	Andre Smith	OL	JR.	6-4/330	Birmingham
44	Corey Smith	PK/P	FR.	6-0/195	Bunker Hill, WV
45	Sam Snider	P/WR	FR.	5-10/165	Norcross, GA
92	Damion Square	DL	FR.	6-2/290	Houston, TX
9	Nikita Stover	WR	SR.	6-0/203	Hartselle
90	Milton Talbert	DL	SO.	6-3/263	Hattiesburg, MS
98	Heath Thomas	P	JR.	6-3/213	Montgomery
99	Leigh Tiffin	PK	JR.	6-1/199	Muscle Shoals
61	Carson Tinker	ST	FR.	6-1/230	Murfreesboro, TN
87	Chris Underwood	TE	FR.	6-3/224	Birmingham
5	Roy Upchurch	RB	JR.	6-0/201	Tallahassee, FL
41	Courtney Upshaw	LB	FR.	6-2/230	Eufaula
73	William Vlachos	OL	SO.	6-0/305	Birmingham
43	A.J. Walker	WR	FR.	6-1/185	Huntsville
88	Nick Walker	TE	SR.	6-5/248	Brundidge
97	Lorenzo Washington	DL	JR.	6-5/275	Loganville, GA
91	Alex Watkins	LB	FR.	6-3/225	Brownsville, TN
55	Chavis Williams	DL/LB	SO.	6-4/223	Dora
63	David Williams	OL	FR.	6-3/272	Duncanville
89	Michael Williams	TE/DE	FR.	6-6/270	Reform
14	John Parker Wilson	QB	SR.	6-2/211	Hoover
27	Justin Woodall	DB	JR.	6-2/220	Oxford, MS

CRIMSON TIDE STATS

PASSING

	Cmp-Att-Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Avg/G
J.P Wilson	157-268-5	58.6	1909	9	159.1
Greg McElroy	8-11-1	72.7	123	1	20.5
Total	165-279-6	59.1	2032	10	169.3
Opponents	205-404-15	50.7	2099	12	174.9

RECEIVING

	GP	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg	Avg/G
Julio Jones	12	46	723	15.7	4	40	60.2
Nick Walker	12	26	262	10.1	2	40	21.8
Mike McCoy	11	16	191	11.9	1	30	17.4
Marquis Maze	12	11	137	12.5	2	34	11.4
Glen Coffee	12	11	71	6.5	0	15	5.9
Roy Upchurch	10	9	101	11.2	0	29	10.1
Earl Alexander	10	7	116	16.6	0	27	11.6
Travis McCall	12	7	52	7.4	0	12	4.3
Brad Smelley	6	6	91	15.2	0	37	15.2
Mark Ingram	12	6	46	7.7	0	27	3.8
Nikita Stover	12	5	86	17.2	1	39	7.2
Darius Hanks	6	5	69	13.8	0	18	11.5
Terry Grant	12	4	36	9.0	0	22	3.0
Will Oakley	8	2	27	13.5	0	14	3.4
B.J. Scott	9	2	7	3.5	0	7	0.8
Jeramie Griffin	2	1	9	9.0	0	9	4.5
Preston Dial	10	1	8	8.0	0	8	0.8
Total	12	165	2032	12.3	10	40	169.3
Opponents	12	205	2099	10.2	12	48	174.9

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg
Javier Arenas	38	557	14.7	2	87
Marquis Maze	2	8	4.0	0	5
Julio Jones	2	11	5.5	0	10
Kareem Jackson	1	8	8.0	0	0
Mark Barron	1	1	1.0	0	1
Roy Upchurch	1	6	6.0	0	0
Marquis Johnson	1	0	0.0	0	0
Chris Rogers	0	17	0.0	1	17
Total	46	608	13.2	3	87
Opponents	23	215	9.3	1	92

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg
Rashad Johnson	5	125	25.0	2	54
Justin Woodall	4	99	24.8	1	74
Marquis Johnson	2	7	3.5	0	7
Kareem Jackson	1	5	5.0	0	5
Javier Arenas	1	63	63.0	1	63
Chris Rogers	1	-6	-6.0	0	0
Rolando McClain	1	12	12.0	0	12
Total	15	305	20.3	4	74
Opponents	6	52	8.7	0	23

KICK RETURNS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg
Javier Arenas	17	385	22.6	0	38
Mike McCoy	5	60	12.0	0	23
Terry Grant	3	52	17.3	0	18
Mark Ingram	1	26	26.0	0	26
Travis McCall	1	9	9.0	0	9
Julio Jones	1	21	21.0	0	21
Marquis Maze	1	19	19.0	0	19
Team	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	30	572	19.1	0	38
Opponents	72	1551	21.5	1	96

FUMBLE RETURNS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg
Dont'a Hightower	1	8	8.0	0	8
Kareem Jackson	1	-9	-9.0	0	0
Rolando McClain	1	4	4.0	1	4
Total	3	3	1.0	1	8
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Overall Team Statistics

	UA	OPP		UA	OPP
SCORING	385	138	KICK RETURN AVERAGE	19.1	21.5
Points Per Game	32.1	11.5	PUNT RETURN AVERAGE	13.2	9.3
FIRST DOWNS	230	156	INT RETURN AVERAGE	20.3	8.7
Rushing	117	48	FUMBLES-LOST	18-9	17-9
Passing	97	95	PENALTIES-Yards	48-422	71-530
Penalty	16	13	Average Per Game	35.2	44.2
RUSHING YARDAGE	2418	883	PUNTS-Yards	53-2130	85-3368
Yards gained rushing	2632	1172	Average Per Punt	40.2	39.6
Yards lost rushing	214	289	Net punt average	34.6	31.5
Rushing Attempts	502	325	TIME OF POSSESSION/Game	32:33	27:27
Average Per Rush	4.8	2.7	3RD-DOWN Conversions	67/158	43/172
Average Per Game	201.5	73.6	3rd-Down Pct	42%	25%
TDs Rushing	30	3	4TH-DOWN Conversions	8/9	10/20
PASSING YARDAGE	2032	2099	4th-Down Pct	89%	50%
Att-Comp-Int	279-165-6	404-205-15	SACKS BY-Yards	23-177	16-114
Average Per Pass	7.3	5.2	MISC YARDS	0	-11
Average Per Catch	12.3	10.2	TOUCHDOWNS SCORED	48	17
Average Per Game	169.3	174.9	FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS	17-25	7-13
TDs Passing	10	12	ON-SIDE KICKS	0-0	1-2
TOTAL OFFENSE	4450	2982	RED-ZONE SCORES	41-49 84%	13-16 81%
Total Plays	781	729	RED-ZONE TOUCHDOWNS	28-49 57%	7-16 44%
Average Per Play	5.7	4.1	PAT-ATTEMPTS	42-44 95%	15-15 100%
Average Per Game	370.8	248.5	ATTENDANCE	644,966	364,238
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	30-572	72-1551	Games/Avg Per Game	7/92,138	4/91,060
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	46-608	23-215	Neutral Site Games	1/70,097	
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	15-305	6-52			

FIELD GOALS

	Made-Att	Pct	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	Lg	Blkd
L. Tiffin	17-24	70.8	0-0	6-7	8-10	2-5	1-2	54	1
C. Smith	0-1	0.0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0

FG SEQUENCE	Alabama	Opponents
Clemson	(54),(21),52,(34),(26)	(33)
Tulane	37	(35),23,41,(21)
Western Kentucky	(22),47,(25)	-
Arkansas	-	-
Georgia	(23),(32)	(43)
Kentucky	34,41,(24)	-
Mississippi	(41)	(25),(35)
Tennessee	(39),(43),(30)	(31),51,43
Arkansas State	37	-
LSU	42,29	41
Mississippi State	(35),(34),(35)	-
Auburn	(37)	39

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made.

KICKOFFS

	No.	Yards	Avg	TB	OB
Leigh Tiffin	66	4206	63.7	2	0
Andrew Friedman	5	291	58.2	0	0
Heath Thomas	2	119	59.5	0	0
Corey Smith	2	116	58.0	0	1
Total	75	4732	63.1	2	1
Opponents	35	2121	60.6	4	1

SCORING

	TD	FGs	Kick	Rush	Rcv	Pass	DXP	Saf	Pts
Leigh Tiffin	0	17-24	42-43	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	93
Mark Ingram	11	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0-0	0	0	68
Glen Coffee	9	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	54
J.P Wilson	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-2	0	0	30
Julio Jones	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	24
Roy Upchurch	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	24
Javier Arenas	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	18
Nick Walker	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Marquis Maze	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Rashad Johnson	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Rolando McClain	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Terry Grant	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Mike McCoy	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Justin Woodall	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Chris Rogers	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Nikita Stover	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Team	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	1	2
Corey Smith	0	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	0
Total	48	17-25	42-44	1-1	0	0-2	0	1	385
Opponents	17	7-13	15-15	0-0	0	0-2	0	0	138

PUNTING

	No.	Yds	Avg	Lg	TB	FC	I20	50+	Blkd
P J. Fitzgerald	51	2097	41.1	56	4	14	14	3	0
Team	2	33	16.5	20	0	0	0	0	2
Total	53	2130	40.2	56	4	14	14	3	2
Opponents	85	3368	39.6	57	4	11	17	9	2

CRIMSON TIDE STATS

TOTAL OFFENSE

	GP	Plays	Rush	Pass	Total	Avg/G
J.P Wilson	12	325	23	1909	1932	161.0
Glen Coffee	12	199	1235	0	1235	102.9
Mark Ingram	12	127	681	0	681	56.8
Roy Upchurch	10	58	350	0	350	35.0
Greg McElroy	6	11	0	123	123	20.5
Terry Grant	12	35	88	0	88	7.3
Jeramie Griffin	2	6	29	0	29	14.5
Demetrius Goode	3	9	24	0	24	8.0
Marquis Maze	12	1	1	0	1	0.1
Team	9	10	-13	0	-13	-1.4
Total	12	781	2418	2032	4450	370.8
Opponents	12	729	883	2099	2982	248.5

ALL PURPOSE

	GP	Rush	Rcv	PR	KR	IR	Total	Avg/G
Glen Coffee	12	1235	71	0	0	0	1306	108.8
Javier Arenas	12	0	0	557	385	63	1005	83.8
Julio Jones	12	0	723	11	21	0	755	62.9
Mark Ingram	12	681	46	0	26	0	753	62.8
Roy Upchurch	10	350	101	6	0	0	457	45.7
Nick Walker	12	0	262	0	0	0	262	21.8
Mike McCoy	11	0	191	0	60	0	251	22.8
Terry Grant	12	88	36	0	52	0	176	14.7
Marquis Maze	12	1	137	8	19	0	165	13.8
Rashad Johnson	12	0	0	0	0	125	125	10.4
Earl Alexander	10	0	116	0	0	0	116	11.6
Justin Woodall	12	0	0	0	0	99	99	8.2
Brad Smelley	6	0	91	0	0	0	91	15.2
Nikita Stover	12	0	86	0	0	0	86	7.2
Darius Hanks	6	0	69	0	0	0	69	11.5
Travis McCall	12	0	52	0	9	0	61	5.1
Jeramie Griffin	2	29	9	0	0	0	38	19.0
Will Oakley	8	0	27	0	0	0	27	3.4
Demetrius Goode	3	24	0	0	0	0	24	8.0
J.P. Wilson	12	23	0	0	0	0	23	1.9
Kareem Jackson	12	0	0	8	0	5	13	1.1
Rolando McClain	12	0	0	0	0	12	12	1.0
Chris Rogers	12	0	0	17	0	-6	11	0.9
Preston Dial	10	0	8	0	0	0	8	0.8
B.J. Scott	9	0	7	0	0	0	7	0.8
Marquis Johnson	12	0	0	0	0	7	7	0.6
Mark Barron	12	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.1
Team	9	-13	0	0	0	0	-13	-1.4
Total	12	2418	2032	608	572	305	5935	494.6
Opponents	12	883	2099	215	1551	52	4800	400.0

2008 RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
08/30/08	vs. Clemson	W	34-10
09/06/08	vs. Tulane	W	20-6
09/13/08	vs. Western Kentucky	W	41-7
09/20/08	at Arkansas *	W	49-14
09/27/08	at Georgia *	W	41-30
10/04/08	vs. Kentucky *	W	17-14
10/18/08	vs. Ole Miss *	W	24-20
10/25/08	at Tennessee *	W	29-9
11/01/08	vs. Arkansas State	W	35-0
11/08/08	at LSU *	W	27-21 (OT)
11/15/08	vs. Mississippi State *	W	32-7
11/29/08	vs. Auburn *	W	36-0
	SEC Championship		
12/06/08	vs. Florida	L	31-20

2008 SEC STANDINGS

School	CONF.	OVERALL
EASTERN DIVISON		
Florida	7-1	12-1
Georgia	6-2	9-3
Vanderbilt	4-4	6-6
So. Car.	4-4	7-5
Tennessee	3-5	5-7
Kentucky	2-6	6-6
WESTERN DIVISON		
Alabama	8-0	12-1
Ole Miss	5-3	8-4
LSU	3-5	7-5
Arkansas	2-6	5-7
Auburn	2-6	5-7
Miss. St.	2-6	4-8

Defensive Leaders

			Tackles				Sacks	Pass Defense				Fumbles		Blkd	
		GP-GS	Solo	Ast	Total	TFL-Yds	No-Yds	Int-Yds	BU	PD	Qbh	Rcv-Yds	FF	Kick	Saf
25	R. McClain	12-12	38	44	82	11.0-44	3.0-22	1-12	5	6	2	2-4	.	.	.
49	R. Johnson	12-12	48	25	73	5.0-15	1.0-7	5-125	11	16	.	1-0	1	.	.
98	B. Fanney	12-12	23	37	60	8.0-18	0.5-4	.	1	1	3	1-0	.	.	.
30	D. Hightower	12-11	22	37	59	2.5-6	.	.	.	.	4	2-8	1	.	.
28	J. Arenas	12-12	38	16	54	3.0-23	2.0-21	1-63	7	8	4	.	.	.	.
3	K. Jackson	12-12	25	14	39	1.0-4	.	1- 5	8	9	.	1--9	.	1	.
27	J. Woodall	12-12	25	12	37	1.0-3	.	4- 99	7	11	.	.	2	.	.
24	M. Johnson	12-1	22	14	36	1.0-4	.	2-7	5	7	1	.	.	.	.
13	C. Reamer	12-11	16	19	35	6.0-16	1.0-8	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.
93	B. Greenwood	12-12	10	21	31	5.0-24	4.0-23	.	1	1	7	.	.	1	.
95	B. Deaderick	12-12	11	20	31	4.5-24	3.5-23	.	.	.	7	.	.	.	.
26	A. Sharrief	12-1	15	11	26	2.5-7	.	.	5	5	4	.	.	.	.
41	C. Upshaw	11-0	11	10	21	2.0-2	.	.	2	2	1	.	.	.	.
32	E. Anders	12-0	11	9	20	3.5-24	2.5-22	.	1	1	6	.	1	.	.
62	T. Cody	10-10	5	15	20	4.5-14	0.5-5	.	.	.	2	2-0	1	.	.
4A	M. Barron	12-0	8	9	17	1.5-11	1.5-11	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	P. Hall	10-0	7	10	17	2.0-5	0.5-4	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.
1H	J. Chapman	12-2	7	7	14	3.0-5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
20	T. King	12-0	10	4	14	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	.	.
1F	L. Washington	12-0	3	10	13	2.5-12	1.0-10	.	.	.	5	.	.	.	.
8A	C. Rogers	12-0	9	3	12	.	.	1--6	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
96	L. Davis	12-0	6	6	12	2.5-4	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
19	C. Jackson	12-0	1	5	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
23	R. Green	10-0	3	2	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
99	L. Tiffin	12-0	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45	C. Higgenbotham	12-0	2	2	4	1.0-8	1.0-8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
57	M. Dareus	6-0	1	3	4	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
5A	J. Harris	8-0	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5	R. Upchurch	10-0	.	3	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
29	T. Grant	12-0	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
97	P J. Fitzgerald	12-0	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	J. Jones	12-12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
36	C. Jordan	8-0	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	M. Talbert	4-0	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
55	C. Williams	5-0	1	.	1	1.0-9	1.0-9	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
78	M. Johnson	12-12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
83	T. McCall	12-10	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	M. Maze	12-4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
38	G. Coffee	12-12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TM	Team	9-0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
58	N. Gentry	9-0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
	Total	12-0	391	378	769	74-282	23-177	15-305	53	68	55	9-3	10	3	1
	Opponents	12-0	421	500	921	48-196	16-114	6-52	31	37	33	8-0	10	4	.

Rushing

	GP-GS	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Glen Coffee	12-12	199	1265	30	1235	6.2	9	87	102.9
Mark Ingram	12-0	127	696	15	681	5.4	11	40	56.8
Roy Upchurch	10-0	58	351	1	350	6.0	4	62	35.0
Terry Grant	12-0	35	119	31	88	2.5	1	18	7.3
Jeramie Griffin	2-0	6	29	0	29	4.8	0	8	14.5
Demetrius Goode	3-0	9	24	0	24	2.7	0	7	8.0
John Parker Wilson	12-12	57	147	124	23	0.4	5	20	1.9
Marquis Maze	12-4	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	0.1
Team	9-0	10	0	13	-13	-1.3	0	0	-1.4
Total	12	502	2632	214	2418	4.8	30	87	201.5
Opponents	12	325	1172	289	883	2.7	3	62	73.6

ALL-TIME CRIMSON TIDE RECORD

Years: 113 **Games: 1144** **Wins: 787** **Losses: 314** **Tied: 43**

YEAR	RECORD	CONF. RECORD	CONF. STANDING
1892	2-2-0		
1893	0-4-0		
1884	3-1-0		
1885	0-4-0		
1886	2-1-0		
1897	1-0-0		
1898	No Team		
1899	3-1-0		
1900	2-3-0		
1901	2-1-2		
1902	4-4-0		
1903	3-4-0		
1904	7-3-0		
1905	6-4-0		
1906	5-1-0		
1907	5-1-2		
1908	6-1-1		
1909	5-1-2		
1910	4-4-0		
1911	5-2-2		
1912	5-3-1		
1913	6-3-0		
1914	5-4-0		
1915	6-2-0		
1916	6-3-0		
1917	5-2-1		
1918	No Team		
1919	8-1-0	5-1-0	
1920	10-1-0	4-1-0	
1921	5-4-2	1-4-2	
1922	6-3-1	3-2-1	8th
1923	7-2-1	4-1-1	2nd
1924	8-1-0	5-0-0	1st
1925*	10-0-0	7-0-0	1st
1926*	9-0-1	8-0-0	1st
1927	5-4-1	3-4-1	10th
1928	6-3-0	6-2-0	5th
1929	6-3-0	4-3-0	5th
1930*	10-0-0	8-0-0	1st
1931	9-1-0	7-1-0	3rd
1932	8-2-0	5-2-0	5th
1933	7-1-1	5-0-1	1st
1934*	10-0-0	7-0-0	1st
1935	6-2-1	4-2-0	5th
1936	8-0-1	5-0-1	2nd
1937	9-1-0	6-0-0	1st
1938	7-1-1	4-1-1	2nd
1939	5-3-1	2-3-1	8th
1940	7-2-0	4-2-0	4th
1941*	9-2-0	5-2-0	3rd
1942	8-3-0	4-2-0	5th
1943	No Team	World War II	
1944	5-2-2	3-1-2	4th
1945	10-0-0	6-0-0	1st
1946	7-4-0	4-3-0	6th
1947	8-3-0	5-2-0	3rd
1948	6-4-1	4-4-1	6th
1949	6-3-1	4-3-1	6th
1950	9-2-0	6-2-0	3rd
1951	5-6-0	3-5-0	T-7th
1952	10-2-0	4-2-0	4th
1953	6-3-3	4-0-3	1st
1954	4-5-2	3-3-2	8th
1955	0-10-0	0-7-0	12th
1956	2-7-1	2-5-0	9th
1957	2-7-1	1-6-1	11th
1958	5-4-1	3-4-1	T-6th
1959	7-2-2	4-1-2	4th
1960	8-1-2	5-1-1	3rd
1961*	11-0-0	7-0-0	1st
1962	10-1-0	6-1-0	2nd
1963	9-2-0	6-2-0	3rd
1964*	10-1-0	8-0-0	1st
1965*	9-1-1	6-1-1	1st
1966	11-0-0	6-0-0	T-1st
1967	8-2-1	5-1-0	2nd
1968	8-3-0	4-2-0	T-3rd
1969	6-5-0	2-4-0	8th
1970	6-5-1	3-4-0	T-7th
1971	11-1-0	7-0-0	1st
1972	10-2-0	7-1-0	1st
1973*	11-1-0	8-0-0	1st
1974	11-1-0	6-0-0	1st
1975	11-1-0	6-0-0	1st
1976	9-3-0	5-2-0	3rd
1977	11-1-0	7-0-0	1st
1978*	11-1-0	6-0-0	1st
1979*	12-0-0	6-0-0	1st
1980	10-2-0	6-1-0	T-2nd
1981	9-2-1	7-0-0	T-1st
1982	8-4-0	3-3-0	T-6th
1983	8-4-0	4-2-0	T-3rd
1984	5-6-0	2-4-0	T-7th
1985	9-2-1	4-1-1	T-2nd
1986	10-3-0	4-2-0	T-2nd
1987	7-5-0	4-2-0	T-4th
1988	9-3-0	4-3-0	T-4th
1989	10-2-0	6-1-0	T-1st
1990	7-5-0	5-2-0	T-2nd
1991	11-1-0	6-1-0	2nd
1992*	13-0-0	8-0-0	1st
1993	9-3-1	5-2-1	1st
1994	12-1-0	8-0-0	1st
1995	8-3-0	5-3-0	T-2nd
1996	10-3	6-2	T-1st
1997	4-7	2-6	T-5th
1998	7-5	4-4	3rd
1999	10-3	7-1	1st
2000	3-8	3-5	T-5th
2001	7-5	4-4	T-3rd
2002	10-3	6-2	1st
2003	4-9	2-6	5th
2004	6-6	3-5	T-3rd
2005	10-2	6-2	3rd
2006	6-7	2-6	T-4th
2007	7-6	4-4	T-3rd
2008	12-0	8-0	1st

Conference standings from 1922-1932 are Southern Conference

* National Champions

Standings from 1992-2007 indicate SEC Western Division

CRIMSON TIDE BOWL RECORD

Total Appearances: 55 Wins: 31 Losses: 21 Ties: 3

Year Bowl	Outcome
1926 Rose	Alabama 20, Washington 19
1927 Rose	Alabama 7, Stanford 7
1931 Rose	Alabama 24, Washington State 0
1935 Rose	Alabama 29, Stanford 13
1938 Rose	California 13, Alabama 0
1942 Cotton	Alabama 29, Texas A&M 21
1943 Orange	Alabama 37, Boston College 21
1945 Sugar	Duke 29, Alabama 26
1946 Rose	Alabama 34, Southern Cal 14
1948 Sugar	Texas 27, Alabama 7
1953 Orange	Alabama 61, Syracuse 6
1954 Cotton	Rice 28, Alabama 6
1959 Liberty	Penn State 7, Alabama 0
1960 Bluebonnet	Alabama 3, Texas 3
1962 Sugar	Alabama 10, Arkansas 3
1963 Orange	Alabama 17, Oklahoma 0
1964 Sugar	Alabama 12, Mississippi 7
1965 Orange	Texas 21, Alabama 17
1966 Orange	Alabama 39, Nebraska 28
1967 Sugar	Alabama 34, Nebraska 7
1968 Cotton	Texas A&M 20, Alabama 16
1968 Gator	Missouri 35, Alabama 10
1969 Liberty	Colorado 47, Alabama 33
1970 Bluebonnet	Alabama 24, Oklahoma 24
1972 Orange	Nebraska 38, Alabama 6
1973 Cotton	Texas 17, Alabama 13
1973 Sugar	Notre Dame 24, Alabama 23
1975 Orange	Notre Dame 13, Alabama 11
1975 Sugar	Alabama 13, Penn State 6
1976 Liberty	Alabama 36, UCLA 6
1978 Sugar	Alabama 35, Ohio State 6
1979 Sugar	Alabama 14, Penn State 7
1980 Sugar	Alabama 24, Arkansas 9
1981 Cotton	Alabama 30, Baylor 2
1982 Cotton	Texas 14, Alabama 12
1982 Liberty	Alabama 21, Illinois 15
1983 Sun	Alabama 28, SMU 7
1985 Aloha	Alabama 24, Southern Cal 3

Year Bowl	Outcome
1986 Sun	Alabama 28, Washington 6
1988 Hall of Fame	Michigan 28, Alabama 24
1988 Sun	Alabama 29, Army 28
1990 Sugar	Miami 33, Alabama 25
1991 Fiesta	Louisville 34, Alabama 7
1991 Blockbuster	Alabama 30, Colorado 25
1993 Sugar	Alabama 34, Miami 13
1993 Gator	Alabama 24, North Carolina 10
1995 Citrus	Alabama 24, Ohio State 17
1997 Outback	Alabama 17, Michigan 14
1998 Music City	Virginia Tech 38, Alabama 7
2000 Orange	Michigan 35, Alabama 34 (OT)
2001 Independence	Alabama 14, Iowa State 13
2004 Music City	Minnesota 20, Alabama 16
2005 Cotton	Alabama 13, Texas Tech 10
2006 Independence	Oklahoma State 34, Alabama 31
2007 Independence	Alabama 30, Colorado 24

Bowl Appearances and the Record

No.	Bowl Game	Record
12	Sugar Bowl	(8-4)
8	Orange Bowl	(4-4)
7	Cotton Bowl	(3-4)
6	Rose Bowl	(4-1-1)
4	Liberty Bowl	(2-2)
3	Sun Bowl	(3-0)
3	Independence Bowl	(2-1)
2	Bluebonnet Bowl	(0-0-2)
2	Gator Bowl	(1-1)
2	Music City Bowl	(0-2)
1	Aloha Bowl	(1-0)
1	Blockbuster Bowl	(1-0)
1	Citrus Bowl	(1-0)
1	Hall of Fame Bowl	(0-1)
1	Fiesta Bowl	(0-1)
1	Outback Bowl	(1-0)

ALABAMA ALL-TIME TEAM

OFFENSE

DON HUTSON
Wide Receiver

RAY PERKINS
Wide Receiver

OZZIE NEWSOME
Wide Receiver

FRED SINGTON
Offensive Lineman

ANDRE SMITH
Offensive Lineman

CHRIS SAMUELS
Offensive Lineman

JOHN HANNAH
Offensive Lineman

DWIGHT STEPHENSON
Center

JOE NAMATH
Quarterback

JOHNNY MUSSO
Running Back

BOBBY HUMPHREY
Running Back

PHILLIP DOYLE
Placekicker

DEFENSE

MARTY LYONS
Defensive Lineman

VAUGHN MANCHA
Defensive Lineman

JOHN COPELAND
Defensive Lineman

BILLY NEIGHBORS
Defensive Lineman

DeMECO RYANS
Linebacker

LEE ROY JORDAN
Linebacker

DERRICK THOMAS
Linebacker

CORNELIUS BENNETT
Linebacker

ANTONIO LANGHAM
Defensive Back

HARRY GILMER
Defensive Back

BOBBY JOHNS
Defensive Back

JEREMIAH CASTILLE
Defensive Back

TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY - TALLADEGA

MULLET MAN TRIATHLON - GULF SHORES

JESSE OWENS MUSEUM AND PARK - OAKVILLE

FANS grab the remote. FANATICS grab the keys.

RICKWOOD CLASSIC - BIRMINGHAM - MAY 28

WTC PRO TOURNAMENT - DOTHAN

BARBER MOTORSPORTS PARK - LEEDS

ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME - BIRMINGHAM

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